

**TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA**

New Delhi, 29th July, 2016
(www.trai.gov.in)

**Highlights of Telecom Subscription Data as on 31st May, 2016**

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	Total (Wireless+ Wireline)
Total Telephone Subscribers (Million)	1033.16	24.87	1058.03
Net Addition in May, 2016 (Million)	-1.10	-0.16	-1.26
Monthly Growth Rate	-0.11%	-0.64%	-0.12%
Urban Telephone Subscribers (Million)	584.25	20.73	604.98
Net Addition in May, 2016 (Million)	-2.16	-0.08	-2.23
Monthly Growth Rate	-0.37%	-0.38%	-0.37%
Rural Telephone Subscribers (Million)	448.90	4.15	453.05
Net Addition in May, 2016 (Million)	1.06	-0.08	0.98
Monthly Growth Rate	0.24%	-1.95%	0.22%
Overall Tele-density*	81.18	1.95	83.14
Urban Tele-density*	147.12	5.22	152.34
Rural Tele-density*	51.27	0.47	51.75
Share of Urban Subscribers	56.55%	83.32%	57.18%
Share of Rural Subscribers	43.45%	16.68%	42.82%
Broadband Subscribers (Million)	142.60	17.16	159.76

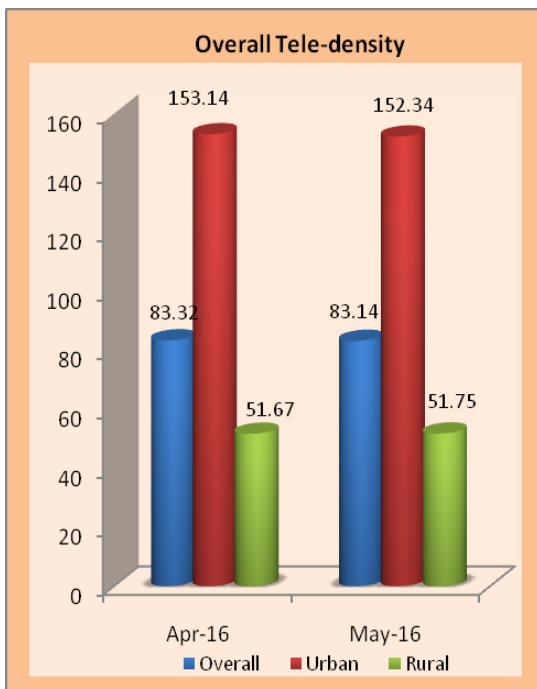
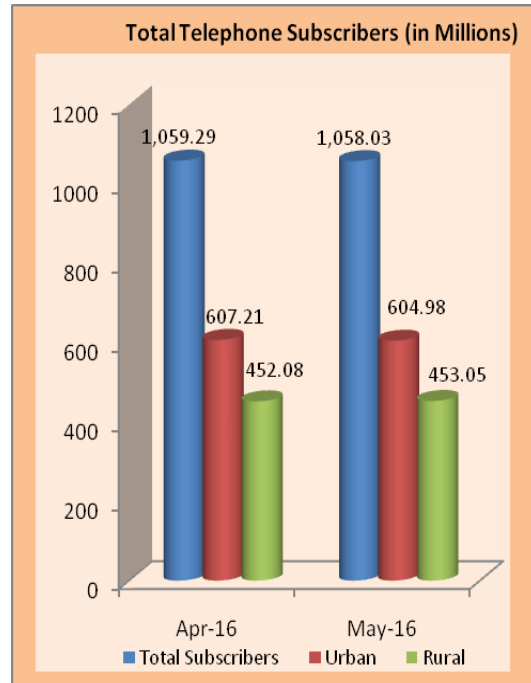
- ❖ In the month of May, 2016, 5.23 million subscribers submitted their requests for Mobile Number Portability (MNP). With this, the cumulative MNP requests increased from 214.04 million at the end of Apr-16 to 219.27 million at the end of May-16, since implementation of MNP.
- ❖ Number of active wireless subscribers (on the date of peak VLR#) in May, 2016 was 932.51 million.

Note:

- Information in this Press Release is based on the data provided by the Service Providers
- * Based on the population projections from Census data published by the Office of Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India.
- # VLR is acronym of Visitor Location Register. The dates of peak VLR for various TSPs are different in different service areas.

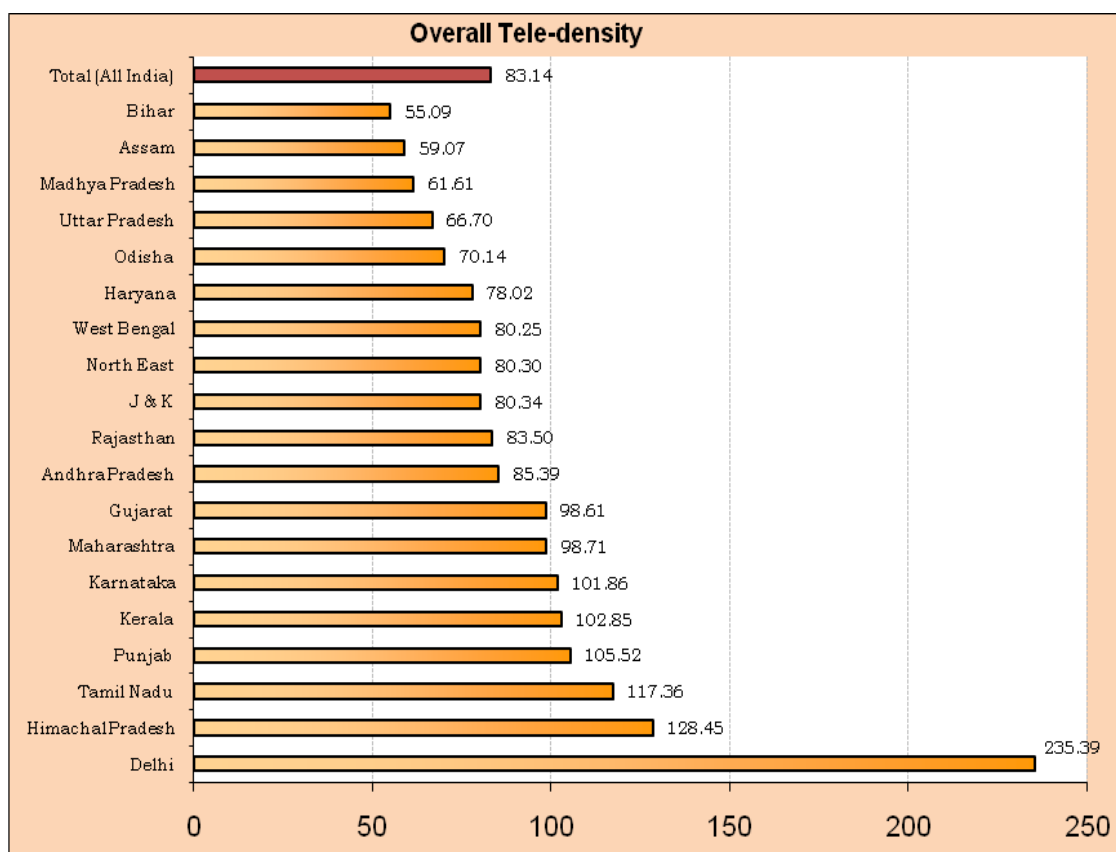
I. Total Telephone Subscribers

- The number of telephone subscribers in India declined from 1,059.29 million at the end of Apr-16 to 1,058.03 million at the end of May-16, thereby showing a monthly growth rate of -0.12%. The urban subscription declined from 607.21 million at the end of Apr-16 to 604.98 million at the end of May-16 whereas the rural subscription increased from 452.08 million to 453.05 million during the same period. The monthly growth rates of urban and rural subscription were -0.37% and 0.22% respectively during the month of May-16.



- The overall Tele-density in India declined from 83.32 at the end of Apr-16 to 83.14 at the end of May-16. The Urban Tele-density declined from 153.14 at the end of Apr-16 to 152.34 at the end of May-16, whereas the Rural Tele-density increased from 51.67 at the end of Apr-16 to 51.75 at the end of May-16. The share of urban subscribers and rural subscribers in total number of subscribers at the end of May-16 was 57.18% and 42.82% respectively.

Overall Tele-density (Circle/State Wise) – As on 31st May, 2016



Notes:

1. Population data/projections are available state wise only.
2. Tele-density figures are derived from the telephone subscriber data provided by the access service providers and the projections of population published by the Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India.
3. Telephone subscriber data for Delhi, includes, apart from the data for the State of Delhi, wireless subscriber data for the areas served by the local exchanges of Ghaziabad & Noida (in Uttar Pradesh) and Gurgaon & Faridabad (in Haryana). West Bengal includes Kolkata, Maharashtra includes Mumbai and Tamil Nadu includes Chennai.

II. Category-wise Growth in subscriber base

Circle Category-wise Net Additions in Telephone Subscribers in the month of May, 2016

Circle Category	Net additions in the month of May, 2016		Telephone Subscriber base as on 31 st May, 2016	
	Wireline segment	Wireless segment	Wireline segment	Wireless segment
Circle A	-94,932	-584,279	9,820,665	362,041,240
Circle B	-35,928	-2,336,389	6,752,408	412,713,584
Circle C	-14,951	1,303,229	1,202,110	154,230,547
Metro	-15,113	521,125	7,099,518	104,171,643
All India	-160,924	-1,096,314	24,874,701	1,033,157,014

Circle Category-wise monthly and yearly Growth Rates in Telephone Subscribers in the month of May, 2016

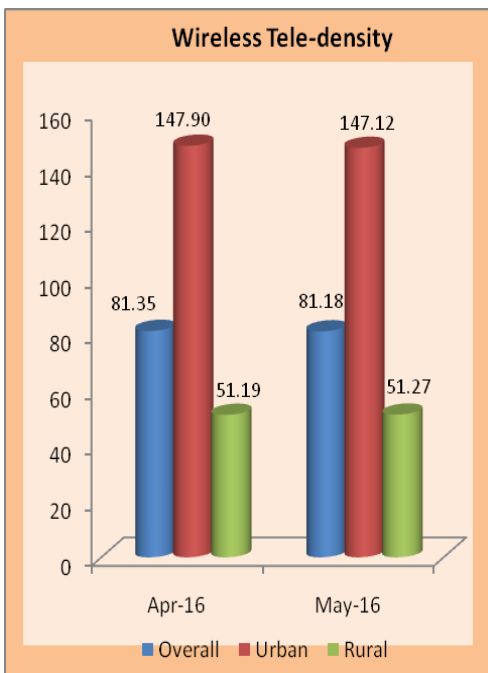
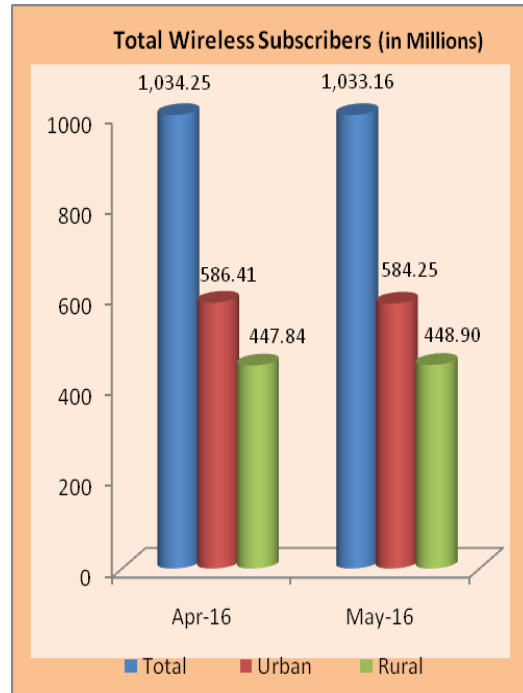
Circle Category	Monthly growth rate (%) (Apr-16 to May-16)		Yearly growth rate (%) (May-15 to May-16)	
	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment
Circle A	-0.96	-0.16	-5.85	5.17
Circle B	-0.53	-0.56	-7.97	6.63
Circle C	-1.23	0.85	-7.04	6.01
Metro	-0.21	0.50	-1.48	5.25
All India	-0.64	-0.11	-5.30	5.88

Note: Circle Category-Metro includes Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata. Data for Chennai has been included in Circle Category-A, as part of TamilNadu.

- As can be seen in the above tables, in wireless segment, the Circles of Category-C and Metro Circles showed the net addition, whereas Circles in Category-A and Category-B showed the net decline in their wireless subscriber base in the month of May-16.
- In Wireline segment, Circles of Category-A showed the highest net decline and highest monthly decline rate in subscriber base in the month of May-16.

III. Wireless Subscribers

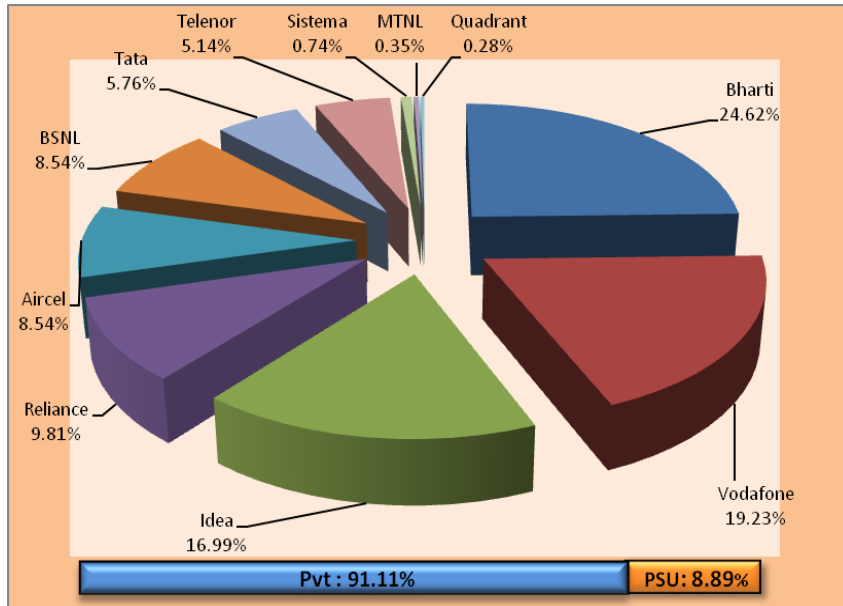
• Total wireless subscriber base declined from 1,034.25 million at the end of Apr-16 to 1,033.16 million at the end of May-16, thereby registering a monthly growth rate of -0.11%. The Wireless subscription in urban areas declined from 586.41 million at the end of Apr-16 to 584.25 million at the end of May-16, whereas wireless subscription in rural areas increased from 447.84 million to 448.90 million during the same period. The monthly growth rates of urban and rural wireless subscription were -0.37% and 0.24% respectively.



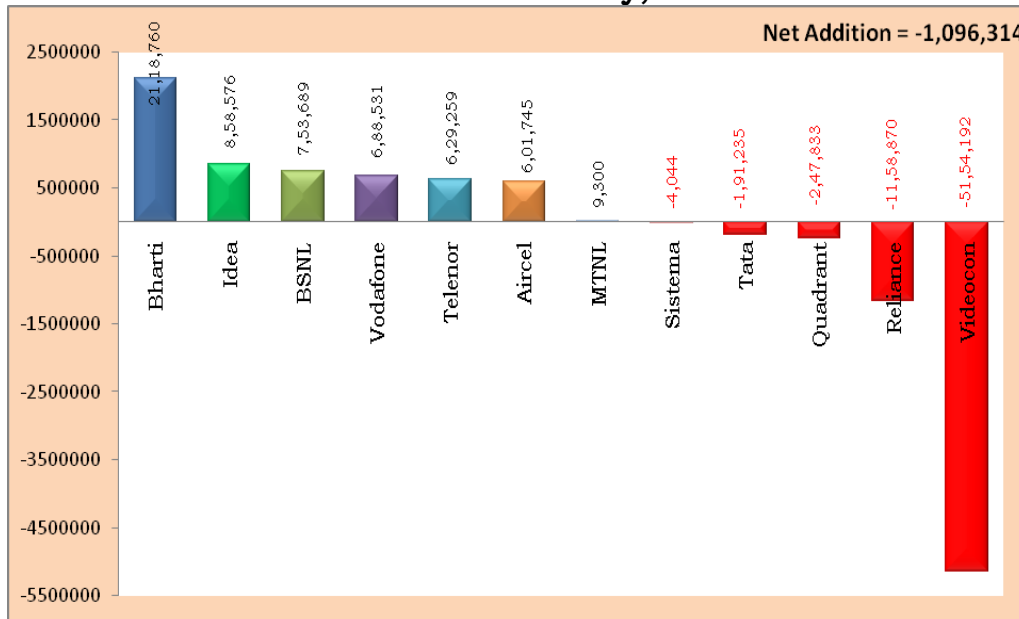
• The Wireless Tele-density in India slightly declined from 81.35 at the end of Apr-16 to 81.18 at the end of May-16. The Urban Wireless Tele-density declined from 147.90 at the end of Apr-16 to 147.12 at the end of May-16, whereas Rural Wireless Tele-density increased from 51.19 to 51.27 during the same period. The share of urban and rural wireless subscribers in total number of wireless subscribers was 56.55% and 43.45% respectively at the end of May-16. Detailed statistics of wireless subscriber base is available at **Annexure-I**.

- As on 31st May, 2016, the private access service providers held 91.11% market share of the wireless subscribers whereas BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, had a market share of only 8.89%. The graphical representation of access service provider-wise market share and net additions in wireless subscriber base are given below:

Access Service Provider-wise Market Shares in term of Wireless Subscriber base as on 31st May, 2016



Net Additions in Wireless Subscriber Bases of Access Service Providers in the Month of May, 2016

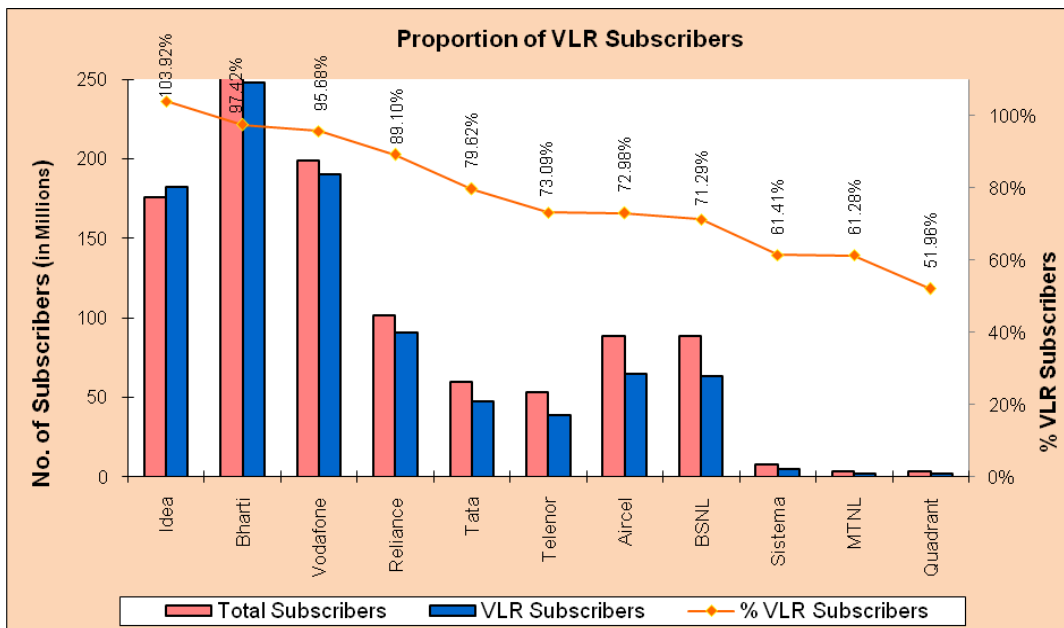


Note: M/s Videocon has closed their commercial services in all its service areas.

IV. Active Wireless Subscribers (VLR Data)

- Out of the total wireless subscriber base (1,033.16 million), 932.51 million wireless subscribers were active on the date of peak VLR in the month of May-16. The proportion of active wireless subscribers was approximately 90.26% of the total wireless subscriber base.
- The detailed statistics on proportion of active wireless subscribers (also referred to as VLR subscribers) on the date of peak VLR in the month of May-16 is available at **Annexure-II** and the methodology used for reporting VLR subscribers is available at **Annexure-IV**.

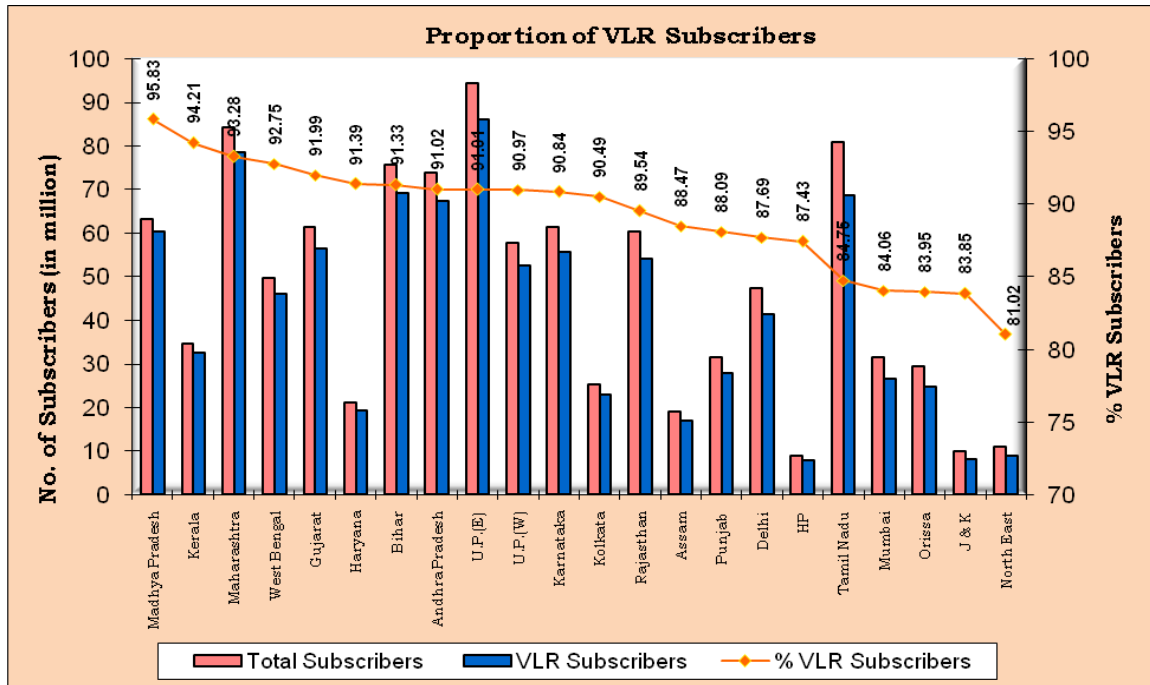
Access Service Provider-wise Proportion of VLR Subscribers in the Month of May, 2016



Note-

1. Number of VLR subscribers of Idea Cellular was more than its subscriber base due to a large number of inroamers in its network.
2. Peak VLR of M/s Idea Cellular for the month of April, 2016 may be read as 104.91% instead of 104.65%.

Service Area wise proportion of VLR Subscribers in the Month of May, 2016



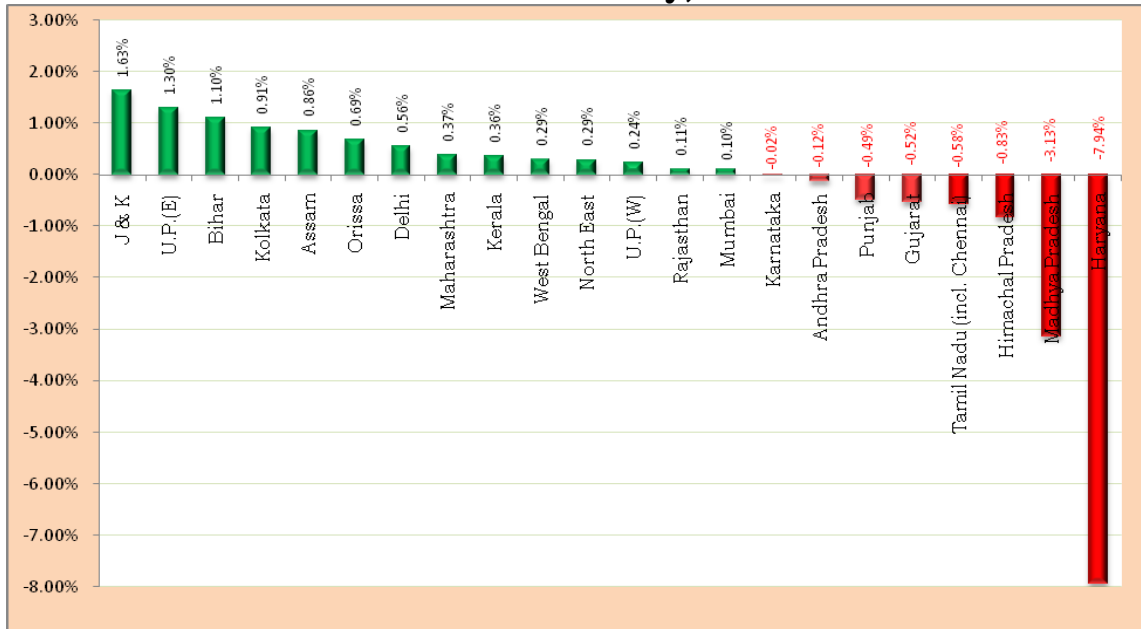
V. Growth in Wireless Subscribers

Access Service Provider-wise Monthly Growth Rate of Wireless Subscriber base in the Month of May, 2016



Note: M/s Videocon has closed their commercial services in all its service areas.

Service Area-wise Monthly Growth Rate of Wireless Subscriber base in the Month of May, 2016



- J&K service area recorded the highest growth rate in wireless subscribers during the month of May-16, whereas Haryana service area showed maximum decline in wireless subscribers.

VI. Mobile Number Portability (MNP)

- Intra-service area Mobile number portability (MNP) has been implemented in Haryana service area w.e.f. 25.11.2010 and in the rest of the country w.e.f. 20.01.2011. Inter-Service Area MNP has been implemented in the country w.e.f. 03.07.2015. Now, the wireless telephone subscribers can retain their mobile numbers when they relocate from one service area to another.
- In the month of May-16, a total of 5.23 million requests were received for MNP. With this, the cumulative MNP requests increased from 214.04 million at the end of Apr-16 to 219.27 million at the end of May-16, since the implementation of MNP.
- In MNP Zone-I (Northern and Western India), the highest number of requests till date have been received in Rajasthan (about 18.86 million) followed by Gujarat (about 16.55 million).

- In MNP Zone-II (Southern and Eastern India), the highest number of requests till date have been received in Karnataka (about 24.28 million) followed by Andhra Pradesh (about 20.67 million).

Service Area Wise MNP Status at the end of May, 2016			
Zone -I		Zone - II	
Service Area	Number of Porting Requests	Service Area	Number of Porting Requests
Delhi	8,753,943	Andhra Pradesh	20,674,785
Gujarat	16,547,932	Assam	1,050,850
Haryana	8,530,077	Bihar	7,846,805
Himachal Pradesh	773,355	Karnataka	24,284,982
Jammu & Kashmir	79,982	Kerala	6,620,033
Maharashtra	15,343,488	Kolkata	4,856,747
Mumbai	12,018,068	Madhya Pradesh	14,948,143
Punjab	7,779,109	North East	428,952
Rajasthan	18,855,614	Orissa	4,538,806
Uttar Pradesh - East	10,345,717	Tamil Nadu	13,722,528
Uttar Pradesh - West	9,988,052	West Bengal	11,278,032
Total	109,015,337	Total	110,250,663
Total (Zone-I + Zone-II)			219,266,000
Net Addition (in April, 2016)			5,227,870

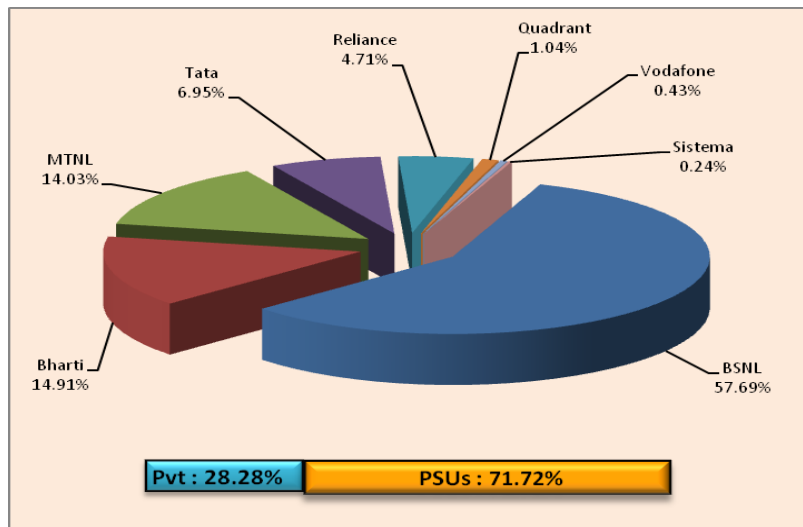
Note: For Zone-II, available MNP data for May, 2016 are provisional.

VII. Wireline Subscribers

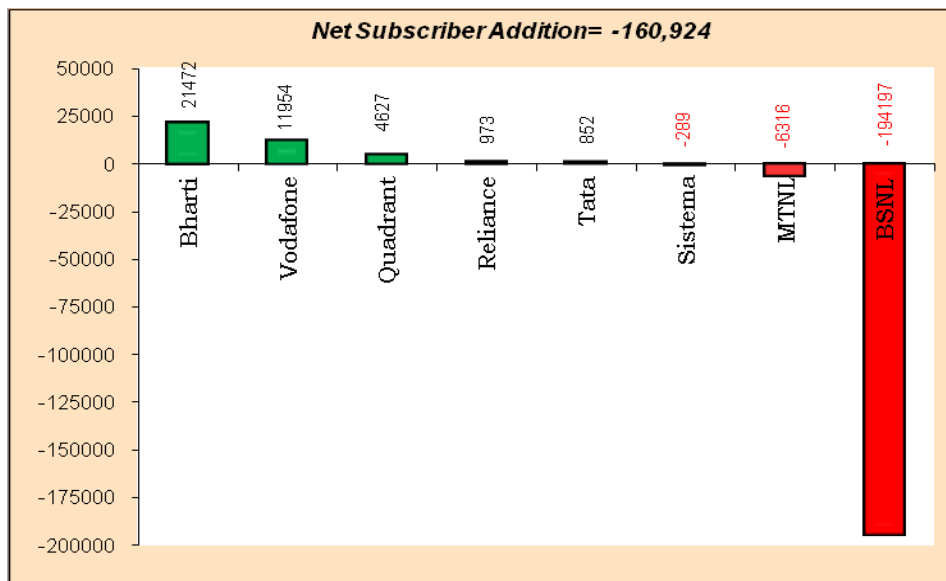
- Wireline subscriber base declined from 25.04 million at the end of Apr-16 to 24.87 million at the end of May-16. Net decline in the wireline subscriber base was 0.16 million with a monthly decline rate of 0.64%. The share of urban and rural subscribers in total wireline subscribers was 83.32% and 16.68% respectively at the end of May-16.
- The Overall Wireline Tele-density declined from 1.97 at the end of Apr-16 to 1.95 at the end of May-16. Urban Wireline Tele-density and Rural Wireline Tele-density were workout as 5.22 and 0.47 respectively.

- BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, held 71.72% of the wireline market share. Detailed statistics of wireline subscriber base are available at **Annexure-III**.
- The graphical representation of service provider-wise market shares in the wireline segment and net additions in wireline subscriber bases in the month of May-16 are given below:

Access Service Provider-wise Market Shares in term of Wireline Subscriber base as on 31st May, 2016



Access Service Provider-wise Net Additions/declines in Wireline Subscriber Base in the Month of May, 2016



VIII. Broadband (\geq 512 Kbps download)

- As per the reports received from the service providers, the number of broadband subscribers increased from 151.09 Million at the end of Apr-16 to 159.76 million at the end of May-16 with a monthly growth rate of 5.74%. Segment-wise broadband subscribers and their monthly growth rates are as below:

Segment-wise Broadband Subscriber base and Monthly Growth Rates in the month of May, 2016

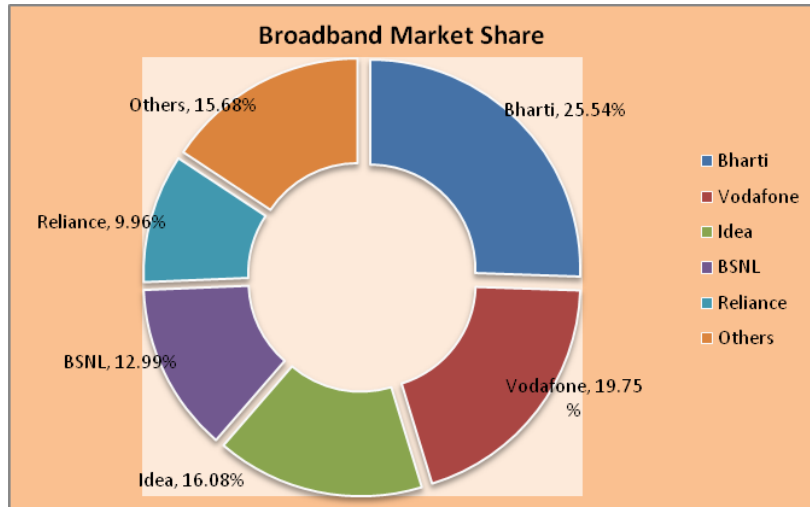
Segment	Broadband subscribers (in million)		Monthly growth rate in the month of May-16
	As on 30 th April, 2016	As on 31 st May, 2016	
Wired subscribers	17.05	17.16	0.63%
Mobile devices users (Phones and dongles)	133.49	142.06	6.42%
Fixed Wireless subscribers (Wi-Fi, Wi-Max, Point-to-Point Radio & VSAT)	0.55	0.54	-0.39%
Total	151.09	159.76	5.74%

- Top five service providers constituted 84.32% market share of the total broadband subscribers at the end of May-16. These service providers were Bharti Airtel (40.80 million), Vodafone (31.55 million), Idea Cellular (25.70 million), BSNL (20.76 million) and Reliance Communications Group (15.91 million).

Note : Some wireless service providers exclude incidental data users from their subscriber base, based on minimum usage decided by them.

- The graphical representation of the service provider-wise market share of broadband services is given below:

**Service Provider-wise Market Share of Broadband
(wired+wireless) Services as on 31.05.2016**



- As on 31st May, 2016, the top five Wired Broadband Service providers were BSNL (9.89 million), Bharti Airtel (1.79 million), MTNL (1.10 million), Atria Convergence Technologies (0.99 million) and YOU Broadband (0.55 million).
- As on 31st May, 2016, the top five Wireless Broadband Service providers were Bharti Airtel (39.01 million), Vodafone (31.54 million), Idea Cellular (25.69 million), Reliance Communications Group (15.79 million) and BSNL (10.87 million).

Contact details in case of any clarification:

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Authorized to issue:

(Vinod Kotwal)
Advisor (F&EA)

Wireless Subscriber Base

Annexure-I

Circle	Group											
	Bharti		Reliance		Vodafone		Tata		Idea		Aircel	
	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16
Andhra Pradesh	23664526	23726881	5421044	5294842	6865224	6869479	4767284	4674820	15417153	15518775	2685198	2690406
Assam	6054937	6086610	1383527	1399677	3705296	3738897			1171233	1155241	5263651	5354792
Bihar	28560298	28928011	4574012	4602257	9487772	9499126	1687253	1678217	11046975	11162653	7143837	7194973
Delhi	11162010	11228186	8027144	8070922	10020796	10087105	2173194	2134686	6038187	6086250	6354618	6422280
Gujarat	8527810	8567520	6072137	6273937	19298837	19319206	2896262	2894615	12068364	12054249	17063	17063
Haryana	3042567	3196199	1943009	1648137	5417424	5488186	2861206	2959012	4670503	4780487	3092	3092
Himachal Pradesh	2859056	2876188	1751661	1617536	718950	722037	68222	66725	803150	810187	1095840	1100300
J & K	3303727	3352868	893061	942990	1049497	1048210			645840	655992	2516445	2554562
Karnataka	20874564	20951030	5969764	5835239	7653675	7635491	7241390	7212571	8411210	8473157	3125450	3166265
Kerala	4363959	4392891	2227152	2146203	7508131	7515912	1569032	1564027	10443233	10505457	303736	308609
Kolkata	4639464	4656240	4755734	4879041	5378891	5429941	2771849	2771747	2062465	2065028	4111846	4146480
Madhya Pradesh	12744771	13065774	11727225	11632019	6920742	7005881	4948247	5169348	21536864	21758808	20694	20694
Maharashtra	13434143	13474068	5588799	5672807	18496204	18416241	6375650	6343372	23435381	23518976	2616553	2631698
Mumbai	5746499	5762769	5695531	5774205	8654302	8651415	3236134	3187188	4133518	4106103	2871493	2878087
North East	3866002	3885136	391492	398967	1544467	1547665			495103	493506	3224032	3213662
Orissa	10440339	10568965	1908554	1871486	4164347	4186494	2271657	2209617	1722450	1740084	4634816	4658881
Punjab	7983668	7984779	1645549	1627032	5104212	5108370	2714307	2705362	6434870	6459693	1064842	1080736
Rajasthan	19462201	19578681	6716136	6607193	12159160	12099976	1529584	1538597	7702649	7646989	6461835	6485305
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	17364894	17386619	6918208	6472068	15522068	15545968	4678921	4566088	5760375	5732885	21643738	21714409
U.P.(E)	21068649	21346116	9542131	9767873	19182928	19428672	4022960	3973399	10853729	10927697	6952510	7003282
U.P.(W)	8280870	8387936	6081794	5888002	11567575	11493205	3442356	3422610	14368823	14406368	697207	725738
West Bengal	14770539	14930786	3285272	2937633	17572917	17844469	445181	437453	5464358	5486424	4850985	4889912
Total	252215493	254334253	102518936	101360066	197993415	198681946	59700689	59509454	174686433	175545009	87659481	88261226
Net Addition		2118760		-1158870		688531		-191235		858576		601745

Wireless Subscriber Base

Annexure-I (contd.)

Circle	Group														Net Addition
	BSNL		MTNL		Telenor		Sistema		Videocon		Quadrant		Total		
	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	
Andhra Pradesh	9585649	9555139			5598726	5582554							74004804	73912896	-91908
Assam	1321865	1328206											18900509	19063423	162914
Bihar	3362240	3346768			8968364	9251426			9611				74840362	75663431	823069
Delhi			2318211	2318569			927620	935582					47021780	47283580	261800
Gujarat	3676307	3746891			8554346	8423671	208056	209602	511526				61830708	61506754	-323954
Haryana	3217005	3079785							1824934				22979740	21154898	-1824842
Himachal Pradesh	1745025	1774003											9041904	8966976	-74928
J & K	1307692	1319945											9716262	9874567	158305
Karnataka	7027706	7033329					1135540	1117964					61439299	61425046	-14253
Kerala	7685880	7790572					354640	355232					34455763	34578903	123140
Kolkata	783501	786792					533275	529849					25037025	25265118	228093
Madhya Pradesh	4449256	4446851								2791341			65139140	63099375	-2039765
Maharashtra	5919866	5985274			8087104	8225845							83953700	84268281	314581
Mumbai			1254236	1263178									31591713	31622945	31232
North East	1552861	1566834											11073957	11105770	31813
Orissa	4212161	4320853											29354324	29556380	202056
Punjab	3655235	3728675									3188450	2940617	31791133	31635264	-155869
Rajasthan	4140128	4264833					2101349	2117213					60273042	60338787	65745
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	8763328	8773121					745476	737105					81397008	80928263	-468745
U.P.(E)	9079722	9283782			12584686	12775465			7440				93294755	94506286	1211531
U.P.(W)	4345726	4443064			8636227	8799751	146441	149751	9340				57576359	57716425	140066
West Bengal	1654097	1664222					1496692	1492747					49540041	49683646	143605
Total	87485250	88238939	3572447	3581747	52429453	53058712	7649089	7645045	5154192	0	3188450	2940617	1034253328	1033157014	-1096314
Net Addition		753689		9300		629259		-4044		-5154192		-247833		-1096314	

Proportion of VLR on the date of Peak VLR in the month of May-16 (%)

Annexure-II

Circle	Aircel	Bharti	BSNL	Quadrant	Idea	MTNL	Reliance	Sistema	Tata	Telenor	Vodafone	Total
Andhra Pradesh	57.99	98.64	73.02		103.91		97.16		87.13	74.31	85.06	91.02
Assam	88.68	96.49	82.38		97.45		4.82				105.83	88.47
Bihar	91.82	97.85	74.09		103.25		42.70		70.50	72.35	108.88	91.33
Delhi	64.24	91.82			93.45	57.21	97.02	46.12	55.42		104.77	87.69
Gujarat	2786.34	95.16	74.28		105.25		99.11	43.60	75.94	68.46	94.23	91.99
Haryana	0.55	97.87	60.08		103.43		98.92		83.52		96.73	91.39
Himachal Pradesh	54.73	94.44	73.23		112.43		98.59		41.58		95.41	87.43
J & K	89.01	88.34	72.54		97.86		59.38				84.42	83.85
Karnataka	59.25	99.67	62.35		105.29		97.40	68.23	88.08		90.85	90.84
Kerala	78.08	93.96	81.37		108.39		91.01	61.30	86.64		92.53	94.21
Kolkata	72.11	96.73	89.45		91.62		98.40	90.48	81.84		96.20	90.49
Madhya Pradesh	1.05	96.02	77.81		106.94		98.92		77.53		81.05	95.83
Maharashtra	56.49	98.22	77.76		105.04		98.56		79.89	71.76	97.53	93.28
Mumbai	52.04	96.31			87.65	68.74	96.13		74.24		82.64	84.06
North East	68.90	96.19	68.69		98.96		5.37				94.38	81.02
Orissa	67.20	96.95	76.83		102.28		11.67		82.74		102.46	83.95
Punjab	63.95	99.26	71.78	51.96	104.44		99.00		74.21		91.63	88.09
Rajasthan	52.96	95.79	76.82		103.89		99.02	59.36	109.23		92.04	89.54
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	71.99	96.98	66.22		95.58		95.12	53.88	73.61		95.77	84.75
U.P. (E)	82.06	101.74	58.62		109.26		97.97		77.02	75.75	97.05	91.01
U.P. (W)	105.21	97.61	63.78		101.65		98.88	58.15	77.14	74.92	95.12	90.97
West Bengal	88.19	98.09	89.43		109.08		9.41	65.03	56.79		101.74	92.75
Total	72.98	97.42	71.29	51.96	103.92	61.28	89.10	61.41	79.62	73.09	95.68	90.26

Note: 1. Peak VLR figures in some circles of some of the service providers are more than their HLR figures due to a large number of inroamers.
 2. Peak VLR of M/s Idea Cellular for the month of April, 2016 may be read as 104.91% instead of 104.65%.

Wireline Subscriber Base

Annexure-III

Circle	Group																Total		Net Addition
	BSNL		MTNL		Bharti		Reliance		Tata		Quadrant		Sistema		Vodafone		Apr-16	May-16	
	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16	Apr-16	May-16			
Andhra Pradesh	1304282	1283465			147119	148614	75897	75871	164041	166462					9,450	10,500	1700789	1684912	-15877
Assam	158653	156997													1,860	1,860	160513	158857	-1656
Bihar	311153	309155					6,879	6,849	13,182	13,165					1080	1110	332294	330279	-2015
Delhi			1615829	1615626	1231072	1235216	174724	174687	133920	132477					21,360	21,600	3176905	3179606	2701
Gujarat	1144157	1128323			72936	74529	74697	74637	87149	87424					4,860	5,220	1383799	1370133	-13666
Haryana	3,00,228	2,96,893			20599	21176	4427	4397	37881	37647					30	30	363165	360143	-3022
Himachal Pradesh	1,60,139	1,57,601					4126	4126	2748	2708					60	30	167073	164465	-2608
J & K	1,29,768	1,28,477															129768	128477	-1291
Karnataka	1276766	1269633			597841	599671	149666	150672	207514	207976					9,810	17,580	2241597	2245532	3935
Kerala	2157677	2137903			56731	56923	33841	33598	18517	18480					1590	1560	2268356	2248464	-19892
Kolkata	661585	649535			117382	117596	69197	69179	50806	49576					3930	4560	902900	890446	-12454
Madhya Pradesh	736611	729749			262227	265328	20256	19994	18151	18067					390	390	1037635	1033528	-4107
Maharashtra	1517126	1474537			74762	75209	82876	82786	283986	284669					11,010	11,640	1969760	1928841	-40919
Mumbai			1879410	1873297	350435	350685	251483	252298	536090	535524					17408	17662	3034826	3029466	-5360
North East	124071	123270													150	150	124221	123420	-801
Orissa	290712	284183					3290	3290	8230	8179					960	960	303192	296612	-6580
Punjab	646905	641545			110323	111786	21268	21284	16817	16763	254002	258629			900	930	1050215	1050937	722
Rajasthan	641008	638690			46368	46910	20814	20764	11552	11801			58931	58642	1,860	1,830	780533	778637	-1896
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	1854577	1819425			514832	519984	134251	134211	108552	109137					7440	8490	2619652	2591247	-28405
U.P.(E)	387896	387957			62079	62286	35111	35097	15390	15313					1,080	1,080	501556	501733	177
U.P.(W)	381704	379420			22027	22292	7105	7105	10091	10081					480	480	421407	419378	-2029
West Bengal	359636	353699					1898	1934	3875	3895					60	60	365469	359588	-5881
Total	14544654	14350457	3495239	3488923	3686733	3708205	1171806	1172779	1728492	1729344	254002	258629	58931	58642	95768	107722	25035625	24874701	-160924
Net Addition		-194197		-6316		21472		973		852		4627		-289		11954		-160924	

VLR Subscribers in the Wireless Segment

Home Location Register (HLR) is a central database that contains details of each mobile phone subscriber that is authorized to use the GSM core network. The HLRs store details of every SIM card issued by the service provider. Each SIM has a unique identifier called an International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI), which is the primary key to each HLR record. The HLR data is stored for as long as a subscriber remains with the service provider. HLR also manages the mobility of subscribers by means of updating their position in administrative areas. It sends the subscriber data to a Visitor Location Register (VLR).

Subscriber numbers reported by the service providers is the difference between the numbers of IMSI registered in service provider's HLR and sum of other figures as given below:-

1	Total IMSI's in HLR (A)
2	Less: (B = a + b + c + d + e)
a.	Test/Service Cards
b.	Employees
c.	Stock in hand/in Distribution Channels (Active Card)
d.	Subscriber Retention period expired
e.	Service suspended pending disconnection
3	Subscribers Base (A-B)

Visitor Location Register (VLR) is a temporary database of the subscribers who have roamed into the particular area, which it serves. Each base station in the network is served by exactly one VLR; hence a subscriber cannot be present in more than one VLR at a time.

If subscriber is in active stage i.e. he is able to send/receive calls/SMSs he is available both in HLR and VLR. However, it may be possible that the subscriber is registered in HLR but not in VLR due to the reason that he is either switched-off or moved out of coverage area, not reachable etc. In such circumstances he will be available in HLR but not in VLR. This causes difference between subscriber number reported by the service providers and numbers available in VLR.

The VLR data calculated here is on the basis of active subscribers in VLR on the date of Peak VLR of the particular month for which the data is being collected. This data is to be taken from the switches having the purge time of not more than 72 hours.