

North America telecoms market: trends and forecasts 2019–2024

••••••

Rémy Giraud and Olamide Makinde

February 2020, based on data up to 3Q 2019



About this report

This report provides:

- a 5-year forecast of more than 180 mobile and fixed KPIs for North America, as a whole and for two key countries
- an in-depth analysis of the trends, drivers and forecast assumptions for each type of mobile and fixed service, and for key countries
- an overview of operator strategies and country-specific topics, in order to highlight similarities and differences by means of a cross-country comparison
- a summary of results, key implications and recommendations for mobile and fixed operators.

Our forecasts are informed by on-the-ground regional market experts from our topic-led research programmes and our consulting division, as well as external interviews. In addition to our robust set of historical data, our forecasts draw on a unique and in-house modelling tool, which applies a rigorous methodology (reconciliation of different sources, standard definitions, top-down and bottom-up modelling).



Our forecasts are refined throughout the year. This report presents the results at the time of publication and will continue to give useful background information about key drivers. However, we recommend that you always use the Analysys Mason DataHub to view the latest data associated with this report.

Geographical	Key performance indicators	
Regions modelled	Connections	Revenue
 North America (NA) Countries modelled individually Canada USA 	Mobile Handset, mobile broadband, 1 IoT2 Prepaid, contract 2G, 3G, 4G, 5G Smartphone, non-smartphone Fixed Voice, broadband, IPTV, dial-up Narrowband voice, VoBB DSL, FTTP/B, cable, BFWA, 5G, other	Mobile Service, retail Prepaid, contract Handset, mobile broadband, IOT2 Handset voice, messaging, data Fixed Service, retail Voice, broadband, IPTV, dial-up, specialist business services DSL, FTTP/B, cable, BFWA, other
		ARPU
	Voice traffic	Mobile
	Fixed and mobile Outgoing minutes, MoU	SIMs, handsetPrepaid, contractHandset voice, data

REPORT COVERAGE



¹ Includes USB modem, and mid- and large-screen, but not handset-based data.

² IoT connections and revenue figures include mobile services only.

³ Service revenue is the sum of retail and wholesale revenue.

Contents [1/2]

7. Executive summary and recommendations

- 8. Revenue from data in both the mobile and the fixed segments will be the main driver of telecoms revenue growth
- 9. The telecoms market in North America is mostly mature and revenue will grow at a slower pace than the rest of the economy
- 10. Geographical coverage: 4G and 5G will be the only mobile technologies in use in 2024 because operators will shut down their 2G and 3G networks
- 11. Key trends, drivers and assumptions for the mobile and fixed markets

12. Regional forecasts and cross-country comparison

- 13. Market context: the economies in Canada and the USA are expected to grow at a slow but steady rate in the next 3 years
- 14. Key mergers, acquisitions and market entries
- 15. Key drivers at a glance for each North America market
- 16. Market overview: the total telecoms revenue is expected to grow slowly, driven by growth in revenue from data in both the fixed and mobile segments
- 17. Mobile: 5G take-up will increase at a significantly faster rate once more 5G-compatible handsets become available
- 18. Mobile: penetration growth will be the main driver of revenue growth in the mobile segment in North America
- 19. Mobile: the lack of competition in the mobile segment will lead to slow but stable growth in mobile revenue during the forecast period
- 20. Fixed: the cable share of broadband connections will fall as the fibre and 5G FWA shares increase, but cable will remain the most-popular fixed broadband technology
- 21. Fixed: fixed broadband penetration will grow during the forecast period, mainly due to improved fixed coverage

- 22. Fixed: the total fixed revenue will grow thanks to increases in both fixed broadband penetration and fixed broadband ASPU
- 23. Specialist business services: business revenue growth will be driven by revenue from non-operators that provide other business services
- 24. IoT: the total IoT value chain revenue will grow considerably over the forecast period, but connectivity revenue will only account for a small proportion of it
- Pay TV: cord-cutting will continue in North America, and traditional pay-TV service revenue will decline

26. Individual country forecasts

- 27. Canada: the total service revenue will continue to grow steadily due to a lack of competition in the fixed broadband market
- 28. Canada: the number of fixed broadband connections will continue to rise as operators expand their networks to rural areas
- 29. Canada: the lack of challengers to the established operators will keep fixed broadband ASPU high, but mobile ARPU growth will be limited
- 30. Canada: forecast changes
- 31. USA: the mobile sector will be the largest contributor to revenue growth thanks to an increase in mobile penetration during the forecast period
- 32. USA: we expect that fixed broadband ASPU will grow during the forecast period, mostly because of the low level of local competition in the market
- 33. USA: the potential merger between T-Mobile and Sprint is creating a lot of uncertainty in the market and may lead to a decline in competition
- 34. USA: forecast changes
- 35. Methodology
- 36. Our forecast model is supported by sound market knowledge



Contents [2/2]

- 37. Examples of forecast input drivers
- 38. Key drivers at a glance table: methodology [1]
- 39. Key drivers at a glance table: methodology [2]
- 40. About the authors and Analysys Mason
- 41. About the authors
- 42. Analysys Mason's consulting and research are uniquely positioned
- 43. Research from Analysys Mason
- 44. Consulting from Analysys Mason



List of figures [1/2]

- Figure 1: Telecoms and pay-TV retail revenue by type and total service revenue, North America, 2014–2024
- Figure 2: Growth in telecoms retail revenue and nominal GDP by country, North America, 2018–2024
- Figure 3: 4G/5G share of mobile connections and NGA share of fixed broadband connections by country, North America, 2018 and 20241
- Figure 4: Summary of key trends, drivers and assumptions for North America
- Figure 5: Metrics for the two countries modelled individually in North America, 2018
- Figure 6: Recent and upcoming market structure changes in North America
- Figure 7: Major forecast drivers: current situation (2018) and future trajectory (2019–2024), by country, North America
- Figure 8: Total fixed and mobile telecoms service revenue, North America (USD billion), 2014–2024
- Figure 9: Mobile connections by type, North America (million), 2014–2024
- Figure 10: Telecoms retail revenue and growth rate by service type, North America, 2014–2024
- Figure 11: Fixed connections by type, North America (million), 2014-2024
- Figure 12: Mobile connections by generation, North America (million), 2014–2024
- Figure 13: Mobile ARPU by type, North America (USD per month), 2014–2024
- Figure 14: Contract share of mobile connections (excluding IoT), North America, 2014–20241
- Figure 15: Mobile data traffic per connection, North America (GB per month), 2014–2024
- Figure 16: Mobile penetration by country, North America, 2014–2024

- Figure 17: Mobile ARPU by country, North America, 2014–2024
- Figure 18: Broadband connections by technology, North America (million), 2014–2024
- Figure 19: Fixed retail revenue by service, North America (USD billion), 2014–2024
- Figure 20: NGA broadband household penetration and NGA share of broadband connections, North America, 2014–2024
- Figure 21: Fixed internet traffic per broadband connection, North America (GB per month), 2014–2024
- Figure 22: Fixed broadband household penetration by country, North America, 2014–2024
- Figure 23: Fixed broadband access ASPU by country, North America, 2014–2024
- Figure 24: Total market revenue from specialist business services, North America, 2014–2024
- Figure 25: Total IoT value chain revenue by sector, North America, 2014-2024
- Figure 26: Retail revenue from pay TV, North America, 2014–2024
- Figure 27: Total fixed and mobile telecoms service revenue, Canada (CAD billion), 2014–2024
- Figure 28: Mobile connections by type, Canada (million), 2014-2024
- Figure 29: Telecoms retail revenue and growth rate by service type, Canada, 2014–2024
- Figure 30: Fixed connections by type, Canada (million), 2014–2024
- Figure 31: 4G, 5G and contract share of mobile connections, Canada, 2014–2024



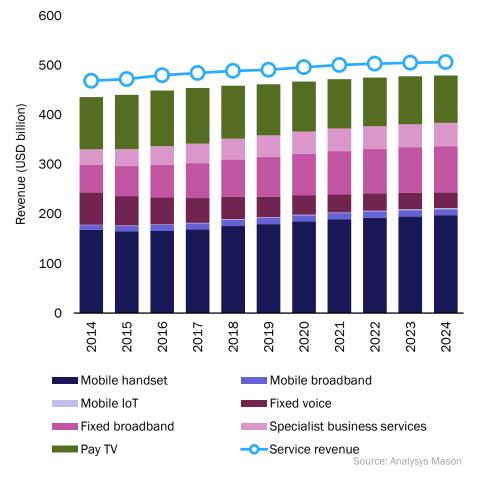
List of figures [2/2]

- Figure 32: Mobile ARPU; fixed voice, broadband and pay-TV ASPU, Canada (CAD per month), 2014–2024
- Figure 33: Mobile data traffic per connection, Canada (GB per month), 2014–2024
- Figure 34: Broadband connections by technology, Canada (million), 2014–2024
- Figure 35: Total telecoms service revenue current and previous forecasts, Canada, 2014–2024
- Figure 36: Total fixed and mobile telecoms service revenue, USA (USD billion), 2014–2024
- Figure 37: Mobile connections by type, USA (million), 2014-2024
- Figure 38: Telecoms retail revenue and growth rate by service type, USA, 2014-2024
- Figure 39: Fixed connections by type, USA (million), 2014-2024
- Figure 40: 4G, 5G and contract share of mobile connections, USA, 2014-2024
- Figure 41: Mobile ARPU; fixed voice, broadband and pay-TV ASPU, USA (USD per month), 2014–2024
- Figure 42: Mobile data traffic per connection, USA (GB per month), 2014–2024
- Figure 43: Broadband connections by technology, USA (million), 2014-2024
- Figure 44: Total telecoms service revenue current and previous forecasts, USA, 2014–2024
- Figure 45a: Methodology for attributing scores to each element in the key drivers table (current and future) and impact of high scores
- Figure 45b: Methodology for attributing scores to each element in the key drivers table (current and future) and impact of high scores



Revenue from data in both the mobile and the fixed segments will be the main driver of telecoms revenue growth

Figure 1: Telecoms and pay-TV retail revenue by type and total service revenue, North America, 2014–2024



Telecoms and pay-TV retail revenue will grow slowly in North America (NA) during the forecast period.

The total telecoms revenue is expected to grow by just 3.3% (CAGR of 0.7%) between 2019 and 2024. The main reason for this is the strong revenue decline in the fixed voice and pay-TV segments. Fixed voice revenue will continue to fall due to substitution by mobile and over-the-top (OTT) voice services. Pay-TV revenue will fall as a result of subscribers moving to OTT video services (a process known as 'cord-cutting').

The total telecoms revenue is still expected to grow despite these declines due to increased revenue from data services in both the fixed and the mobile segments. Fixed broadband revenue is expected to grow at a CAGR of 3.2% between 2019 and 2024. Fixed broadband coverage is slowly improving across NA, which will lead to some growth in penetration. Additionally, operators will be able to monetise part of their investments to switch consumers to faster, more-expensive services. Consumers are also increasingly using mobile data services now that improved coverage and capacity supports heavier data usage.

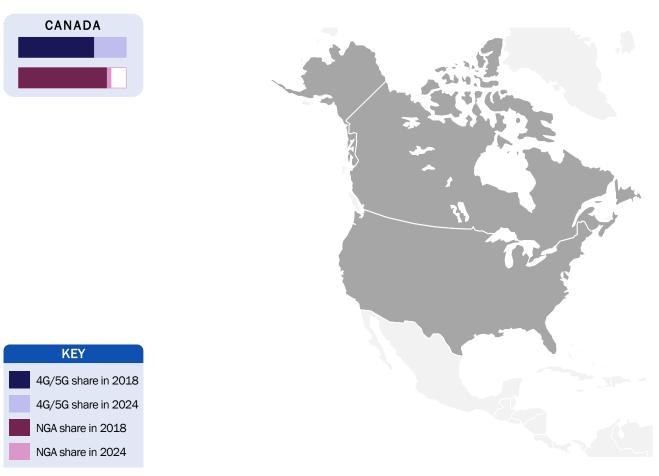
Revenue from other areas (such as IoT services or specialist business services) will also grow during the forecast period. However, the net impact on the total revenue will be smaller. For example, revenue from IoT connectivity will grow at a CAGR of 12% between 2019 and 2024, but it will still only account for less than 0.5% of the total revenue.



USA

Geographical coverage: 4G and 5G will be the only mobile technologies in use in 2024 because operators will shut down their 2G and 3G networks

Figure 3: 4G/5G share of mobile connections and NGA share of fixed broadband connections by country, North America, 2018 and 2024¹



^{•••} analysys • mason

¹ For a full list of countries modelled as part of the North America region, please see the accompanying data annex. Mobile connections exclude IoT connections. NGA share of fixed broadband connections is calculated as cable, VDSL and FTTP/B connections (that provide access speeds of 30Mbit/s or more) divided by the total number of fixed broadband connections.





Executive summary and recommendations

Regional forecasts and cross-country comparison

Individual country forecasts

Methodology

About the authors and Analysys Mason



About the authors



Rémy Giraud (Senior Analyst) is the lead analyst for Analysys Mason's Americas research programme, and as a member of the regional markets research team in London, contributes mainly to the Telecoms Market Matrix, European Core Forecasts and Video Strategies research programmes. Rémy holds a BSc in economics from the London School of Economics (LSE) and an MSc in Risk and Finance from EDHEC Business School.

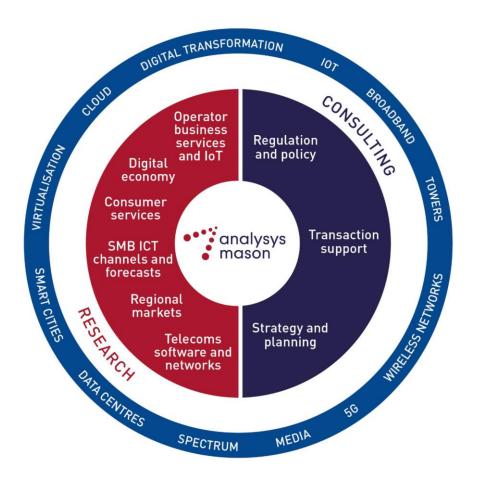


Olamide Makinde (Research Analyst) is a member of the Data Team in London, contributing primarily to the European Country Reports, The Middle East and Africa and Telecoms Market Matrix research programmes. Olamide holds a BSc in Molecular Genetics from Kings College London and an MSc in Genomic Medicine from Queen Mary University.



Analysys Mason's consulting and research are uniquely positioned

Analysys Mason's consulting services and research portfolio



Consulting

We deliver tangible benefits to clients across the telecoms industry:

 communications and digital service providers, vendors, financial and strategic investors, private equity and infrastructure funds, governments, regulators, broadcasters and service and content providers

Our sector specialists understand the distinct local challenges facing clients, in addition to the wider effects of global forces.

We are future-focused and help clients understand the challenges and opportunities new technology brings.

Research

Our dedicated team of analysts track and forecast the different services accessed by consumers and enterprises.

We offer detailed insight into the software, infrastructure and technology delivering those services.

Clients benefit from regular and timely intelligence, and direct access to analysts.



Research from Analysys Mason

Consumer services programmes

Mobile Services

Mobile Devices

Fixed Broadband Services

Convergence Strategies

Video Strategies

Operator investment programmes

Operator Investment Strategies

Network Traffic

Spectrum

Telecoms software and networks programmes

Software Forecast and Strategy

Telecoms Software Market Shares

Network-focused

Next-Generation Wireless Networks

Video and Identity Platforms

Service Design and Orchestration

Automated Assurance

Network Automation and Orchestration

Digital Infrastructure Strategies

Customer-focused

Digital Experience

Customer Engagement

Monetisation Platforms

Al and Analytics



Digital economy programmes

Digital Economy Strategies
Future Comms

Operator business services and IoT programmes

Large Enterprise Voice and Data Connectivity
Large Enterprise Emerging Service Opportunities
SME Strategies
IoT and M2M Services
IoT Platforms and Technology

SMB ICT channels and forecasts programmes

Managed Service Provider Strategies

Cyber Security

Regional markets programmes

Global Telecoms Data
Americas
Asia-Pacific
Middle East and Africa
European Core Forecasts
European Telecoms Market Matrix
European Country Reports

DataHub

~2500 forecast and 250+ historical metrics

Regional results and worldwide totals

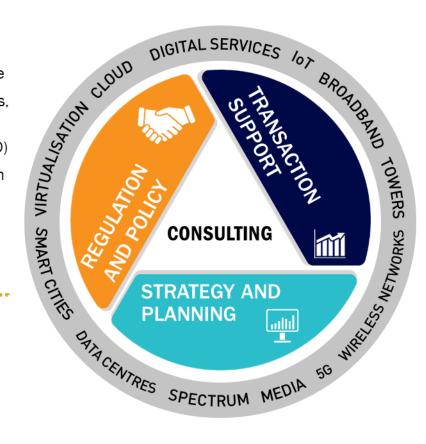
Operator historical data



Consulting from Analysys Mason

REGULATION AND POLICY

- Policy development and response
- Ex-ante market reviews, remedies, costing ...
- Universal Service Obligation (USO)
- Scarce resources: radio spectrum management, auction support, numbering ...
- Ex-post/abuse of dominance
- Postal sector



analysysmason.com/consulting

TRANSACTION SUPPORT

- Commercial due diligence
- Technical due diligence
- Mergers and acquisitions (M&As)
- Debt and initial public offerings (IPOs)
- Joint-venture structuring
- Mid-market financial sponsors

STRATEGY AND PLANNING

- Commercial expertise
- Technology optimisation
- New digital frontiers



