



CHINA WIRELESS INFRASTRUCTURE FY20 – APRIL 2021

COVID-19 and 5Geopolitics failed to stop China's 5G aspiration and ascension



Table of Contents

ABSTRACT	3
KEY TAKEAWAYS	4
COVID-19 AND 5G GEOPOLITICS FAILED TO DERAIL CHINA'S GDP GROWTH AND 5G ASCENSION	5
ONCE AGAIN, CHINA DELIVERED, UNDER EXTREME PRESSURE.....	5
THAT CHINA WAS ON TRACK TO TAKE OVER THE U.S. AS THE WORLD'S LARGEST ECONOMIC POWER WAS PREDICTED 10 YEARS AGO	5
COVID-19 WAS THE FINAL TOUCH	5
<i>The U.S. GDP drop was indeed very significant</i>	6
<i>Now the U.S. and China are driving the global recovery.....</i>	6
<i>COVID-19 has reset the GDP race between the U.S. and China.....</i>	7
<i>However, China's aging population may get in the way of China's economy overtaking that of the U.S.</i>	7
<i>Chinese government economists are worried.....</i>	8
<i>...and see 5g as a key enabler of China's digital economy</i>	8
<i>China's 5G-based digital economy is rapidly taking off and paving the way for 6G.....</i>	9
FROM ECONOMIC POWER TO 5G SUPERPOWER.....	9
BY FAR, CHINA BOASTS THE WORLD'S LARGEST 5G FOOTPRINT	10
...AND THE WORLD'S LARGEST MOBILE TOTAL AND 5G SUBSCRIBER BASE	11
CHINA'S RAN MARKET JUMPED 38% YOY LAST YEAR	11
2021 WILL SEE THE SAME LEVEL OF 5G UNIT ACTIVITY AS LAST YEAR.....	12
<i>The 4G decline will drag the whole RAN market down 11% over 2020</i>	13
IN 2026, WE EXPECT CHINA TO KICK OFF 6G ROLLOUTS	14
THE COMBINED MARKET SHARE OF HUAWEI AND ZTE ROSE TO 80% FROM 76% IN 2020.....	15
BOTTOM LINE: WHILE RE-SHORING, CHINA IS BECOMING ISOLATED AND SELF-RELIANT.....	15
<i>Re-shoring chip manufacturing takes time and is not cheap</i>	16
<i>And if cut from U.S. technology, China's home-grown chip makers won't be able to expand</i>	16
<i>So many things can go wrong</i>	17

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 services providers (e.g., China Broadcasting Network, China Mobile, China Telecom, China Unicom) provide their interim report so that we can gather many details about 1H21 and provide a 2H21 outlook and a 5-year forecast. This report also includes RAN vendor market shares and analysis.