

China Telecom China Unicom and China Mobile all connect to fiber optic cable



Overview

The New Cross Pacific Cable System is a new generation high capacity fibre-optic submarine cable system across the Pacific Ocean directly connecting the US and Asia with landings in China, Korea, Taiwan, Japan and the US. The NCP consortium consists of Chunghwa Telecom, KT. Fiber now underpins nearly all fixed broadband in China - With 99% of lines on fiber, operators and policymakers rely on it as the backbone for gigabit services, smart cities and national digitalization efforts. Engineered by telecom giant China Unicom in partnership with Huawei, the service delivers a verified downstream speed of 9,834 Mbps. China's three main telecom carriers, China Telecom, China Mobile, and China United Network Communications Group, are reportedly in the process of mapping one of the world's most advanced and far-reaching subsea cable networks. As of the end of March 2026, their total number of fixed internet broadband access subscribers reached 697 million, and the total number of mobile phone subscribers reached 1.



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Inside China's fiber future

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Internet in China has different performances locally and internationally

Practical takeaway: If you want consistent reach inside mainland China, ensure your provider has strong connectivity to all three major networks (Telecom, Unicom, Mobile) — not just one.

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Telecommunications industry in China

China Mobile and China Satcom were created to run, respectively, the mobile and satellite sectors but China Telecom continued to be a monopoly of fixed-line services.

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Telecommunications industry in China

OverviewHistorical overviewRegulatory environmentForeign participationMarket overviewTelecom operatorsNetwork equipment suppliers in ChinaOnline and mobile gaming

Before 1994, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MTP) provided telecom services through its operational arm, China Telecom. Pressured by other ministries and dissenting customers, the Chinese government officially started the telecom industry reforms in 1994 by introducing a new competitor: China Unicom. China Unicom could hardly compete with the giant China Telecom. In 1998, due to a ministerial reorganization, the MTP was replaced by the new Ministry of Information Industry

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China's Three Major Telecommunications Operators_Baiduwiki

China Mobile, China Telecom, and China Unicom, the three major telecommunications operators, were included in the sanctions list of the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets ...

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China has officially leapfrogged global broadband standards by launching the world's first commercial 10G fiber broadband network in Suning County, Hebei Province.

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