

IDC: W. European Mobile Market Reaches Saturation

Written by Marco Attard
27. February 2015

According to IDC the W. European mobile phone market fails to grow in 2014, making for a 2nd consecutive year of shipment declines-- a clear sign of saturation as overall 2014 shipments drop by -5.2% to 174.1 million units.

Top Western European Mobile Phone Vendors, Total Shipments and Market Share, 2014 Smartphones and Feature Phones (Units in Millions)

Vendor	2014 Unit Shipments	2014 Share	2013 Unit Shipments	2013 Market Share	2014/2013 Change
1. Samsung	61.4	35.3%	77.7	42.3%	-21%
2. Apple	30.9	17.7%	26.9	14.6%	14.9%
3. Nokia/Microsoft	19.7	11.3%	25.9	14.1%	-23.9%
4. Sony	15.2	8.7%	14.8	8.1%	2.7%
5. LG Electronics	8.7	5%	8.1	4.4%	7.4%
6. Others	38.2	22%	30.3	16.5%	26.1%
Total	174.1	100%	183.7	100%	-5.2%

Source: IDC European Quarterly Mobile Phone Tracker, February 2015

The feature phone segment is worst hit, with shipments dropping by 39% to 28.4m units and revenues worth \$1.4 billion. IDC describes feature phones as nothing less than a niche segment, one representing just 16% of 2014 shipments and 2.2% of total market value.

Meanwhile smartphone shipments reach 145.8m units with 6.4% growth. The category makes 84% of overall 2014 mobile shipments, and is worth \$62.4bn, a 1.7% increase over 2013.

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Vendor	2014 Unit Shipments	2014 Share	2013 Unit Shipments	2013 Market Share	2014/2013 Change
1. Samsung	51	35%	58.3	42.6%	-12.5%
2. Apple	30.9	21.2%	26.9	19.6%	14.9%
3. Sony	15.2	10.4%	14.8	10.8%	2.7%
4. Nokia/Microsoft	10	6.9%	7.6	5.5%	31.6%
5. LG Electronics	8.6	5.9%	7.7	5.6%	11.7%
6. Others	30.1	20.6%	21.7	15.9%	38.7%
Total	145.8	100%	137	100%	6.4%

Source: IDC European Quarterly Mobile Phone Tracker, February 2015

[IDC European Quarterly Mobile Phone Tracker](#) - IDC's quarterly report on the Western European mobile phone market, including shipments, market share, and forecasts.