

Glossary

1G	First-generation analog mobile telephony systems.
2G	Second-generation digital mobile telephony systems, which also support text messaging (SMS).
2.5G	An upgraded version of second-generation digital mobile telephony systems, which offer higher data transfer speeds and support multimedia messages (MMS).
3G	Third-generation digital mobile telephony systems, which offer high data transfer rates and support mobile multimedia services such as videoconferencing over mobile networks.
ARPU	Average Revenue Per User, a key performance indicator used in the comparison of various mobile operators or markets.
BREW	Binary Runtime Environment for Wireless. A development platform for mobile applications by chipset manufacturer Qualcomm.
CDMA	Code Division Multiple Access. A radio transmission technology, which is the basis of several mobile network standards such as CDMA2000, CDMA 1X, and CDMA2000 1xEV-DO.
EDGE	Enhanced Data Rates for GSM Evolution. An evolutionary upgrade for GSM networks, which offers higher data transfer speeds (up to 384 kbps).

GPRS	General Radio Packet Service. A packet-switched enhancement of GSM networks, which offers always-on connectivity and data transfer speeds up to 115 kbps.
GSM	Global Systems for Mobile Communications. A mobile cellular standard developed in Europe.
IMT-2000	International Mobile Telecommunications. A set of standards adopted by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for the third-generation (3G) mobile networks.
MMS	Multimedia Message Service. A method of sending and receiving graphics, video, sound files, and short text messages (SMS) over wireless networks using the WAP protocol.
SMS	Short Message Service. A service for sending messages up to 160 characters from one mobile phone to another.
UMTS	Universal Mobile Telephony System. A third-generation mobile technology that delivers broadband information at speeds up to 2 Mbps. A term commonly used in Europe.
W-CDMA	Wideband Code Division Multiple Access. A third-generation mobile technology, which is based on CDMA technology. Commonly referred to as UMTS, especially in Europe.
WAP	Wireless Application Protocol. A specification for mobile services that allow users to access information via handheld devices such as mobile phones.
Wi-Fi	Wireless Fidelity. A term referring to various types of 802.11-based wireless networks. In Europe, the more common term used is WLAN.
WiMAX	WiMAX is a wireless technology based on IEEE 802.16 standard. WiMAX provides metropolitan area network connectivity at speeds of up to 75 Mbps. Theoretically WiMAX can be used to transmit signal as far as 30 miles (or 50 km). However, on the average a WiMAX system will likely cover between three to five miles (or 5-8 km).
WLAN	See Wi-Fi.