



*Statistical Overview of the
Telecommunications Sector in Sri Lanka*

A S W Bandusiri
Statistical Officer
TRCSL

Tel: +94 11 2675988 Fax: +94 11 2689341
E-mail: bandusiri@yahoo.com,
bandusiri@hotmail.com
Web: <http://www.trc.gov.lk>

	Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka				
	Our Vision				
	TO BE AT THE FOREFRONT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATION				
	Our Mission				
TO Create The Optimum Conditions for the Telecommunications Industry in Sri Lanka by serving the public interest in terms of quality, choice and value for money; The service providers with equitable access to spectrum and other common resources; and the nation in its drive for socio- Economic advancement through a skilled and ethical workforce.					



Sri Lanka Country Profile

- **The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka is an Island in the Indian Ocean, off the southern tip of the peninsula of India.**
- **Capital – Colombo**
- **Area – 65,610 sq km**
- **Population :-19.252 Million**
- **GDP – 1760 Billion**
- **GDP per Capital – US\$ 870**
- **Currency –Sri Lankan Rupees (1 US\$ =>98 LKR)**
- **Land Area :-65,610 sq km**
- **Agriculture based**
- **78% out side the urban area**
- **91% literacy**
- **Infant Mortality rate 11.0 per 1'000 live births**
- **Population growth 1.3%**

Overview of Telecommunications Regulations

- The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL) is a statutory body established under the Sri Lanka Telecommunications Act, No. 25 of 1991, as amended by the Sri Lanka Telecommunications (amendment) Act, No. 27 of 1996.
- TRCSL is carrying out its role as a regulator in the field of Telecommunications.
 - * TRCSL Presently functions under the Ministry of Posts Telecommunications and Up Country Development for the purpose of regulating the telecommunications sector.
 - * One of the functions of TRC is to create a level playing environment for all the telecommunication service providers and to enhance and ensure the accessibility of telecommunication facilities to all the citizens in the country.

Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Up Country Development

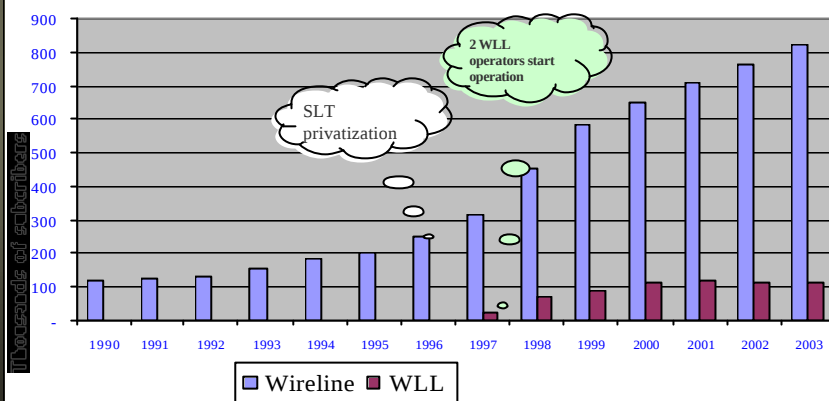
Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka

Licensed Operators:

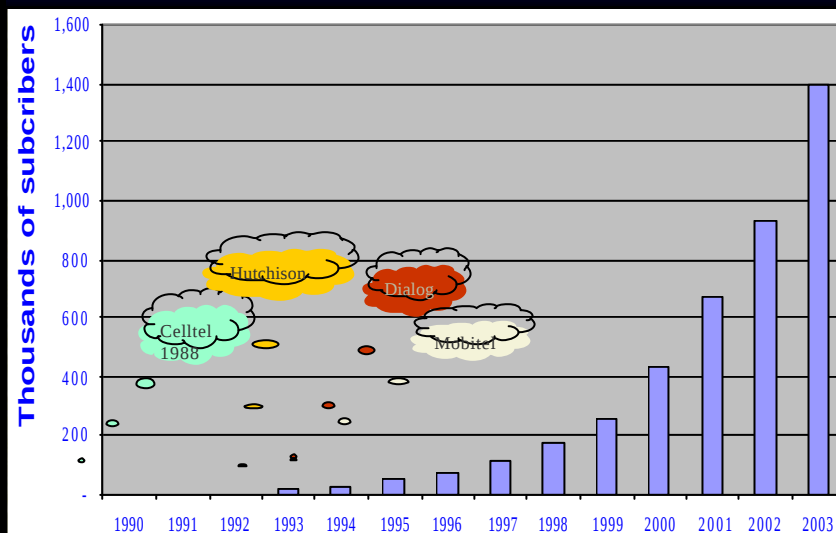
- Fixed (Wireline, Wireless) => 3
- Cellular Mobile => 4
- Data Operators (Facility based) => 6
- Data Operators (Non facility based ISPs') => 23
- Infrastructure facility Provider => 1
- Trunk Mobile Radio Operator => 2
- External Gateway Operators => 32
- Payphone => 2 Paging => 4 & Frequency Users.

The Telecommunications market in Sri Lanka has become relatively competitive, especially in the areas of cellular mobile services, Wireless, Wire line fixed access services and Data Communication Services.

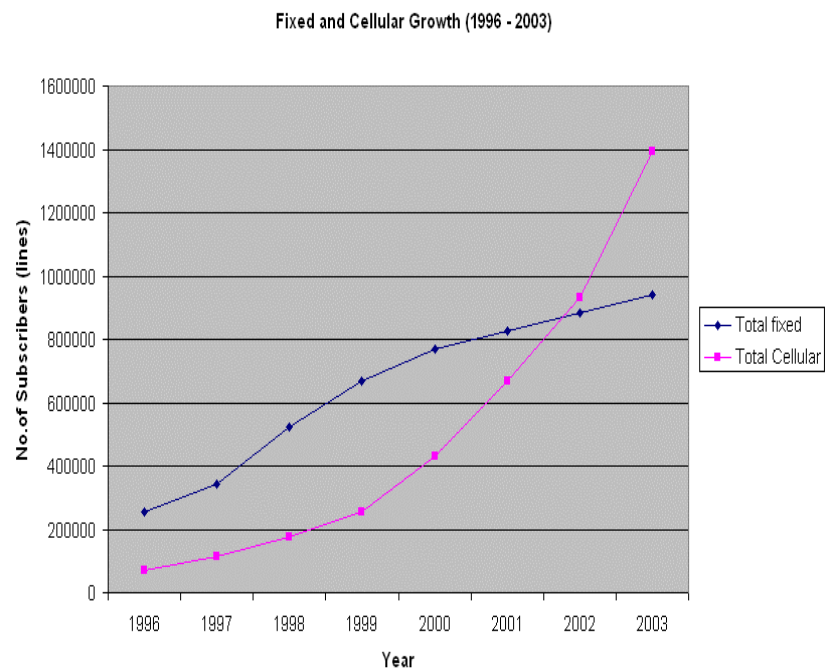
Fixed telephone subscriber growth

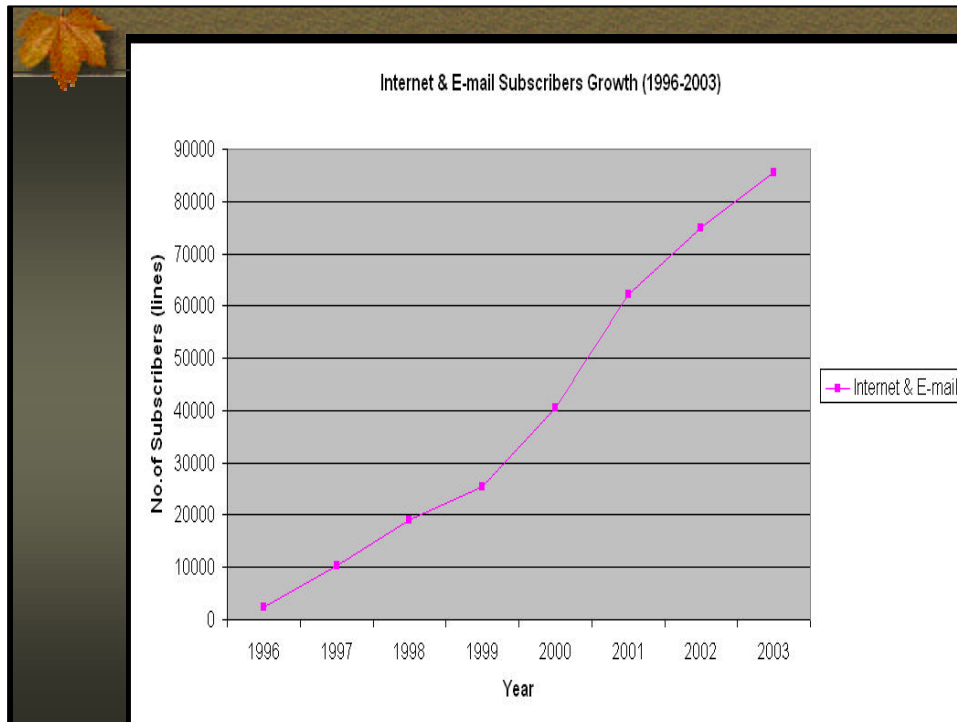


Mobile subscriber growth



- While mobile has contributed to the bulk of Sri Lanka's telecommunications progress over the last 4 years, Fixed lines also increased considerably.
- End of 2002, the number of mobile subscribers surpassed that of fixed subscribers.
- Today there are over 2 million Cellular Mobile subscribers.





■ Data Collection and Challenges

- * **Collection of Internal Data**
To prepare progress reports and action plans for the organization data is collected from all internal divisions
 - * Prepare formats for questionnaires
 - * Send the questionnaire
 - * Reminders ?
 - * Collect, enter & analyse data
 - * Prepare Reports.



- Collection of External Data
 - Preparation of a questionnaire for the collection of data
 - Analyse the data received & prepare aggregated values
 - * Calculate estimated values for each sector
 - * When data is not sent by an operator check with previous values sent by operator and to estimate a value.
 - * review the formats every year
 - * Analysis of Data – Graphs, bar charts, etc..
 - * Prepare & Send reports
 - * Update Web-site



- Data Collection and challenges
 - To prepare a questionnaire that simple and comprehensive
 - Operators send misleading data
 - Operators do not send data
 - Getting information through reminders
 - Validating the data received
 - When data is not available estimating the required values

Operator details

Operator type	2004
Fixed Access Telephone service	3
Cellular Mobile phones	4
Data Communications (facility based)	6
Data Communications (non-facility based) & ISP's	23
Radio Paging	4
Trunk Mobile Radio	2
Leased Circuit Providers	1
Licensed Payphone Service Providers	2
External Gateway Operator	32
Sub Total	77

Indicators

- Teledensity (Fixed) - 5.0 (As at September 2004)
- Mobidity - 10.2 (As at September 2004)
- Internet Lines 0.46 per 100 inhabitants
- Revenue per Fixed Line per month US \$ 22 (Average)
- Number of Fixed Phones per Employee 77
- Number of Fixed Phones per Mobile Phone 2.1



Digital Access Index (DAI) - 2002 (ITU) South Asia	
Country	DAI - 2002
Maldives	0.43
Sri Lanka	0.38
India	0.32
Pakistan	0.24
Nepal	0.19
Bangladesh	0.18
Bhutan	0.13

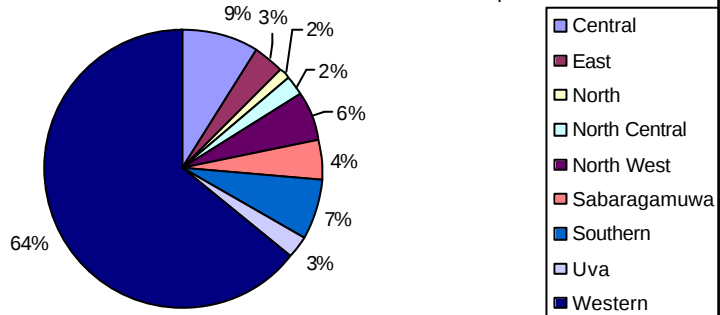


Fixed Access Subscriber base as at Sep 2004	
Province	Cumulative
Centra	187,506
East	33,329
North	15,576
North Central	21,596
North West	56,559
Sabaragamuwa	42,171
Southern	67,005
Uva	26,487
Western	624,032
Total	974,261

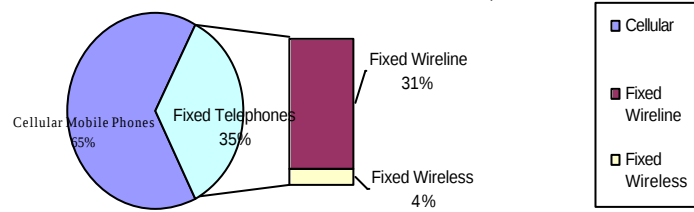
PROVINCIAL DISTRIBUTION OF FIXED PHONES IN SRI LANKA AS AT SEPTEMBER 2003



Provincial Distribution of Fixed Phones - 2004 Sep



Wireline, Wireless and Cellular Phone Distribution as at end of Sep 2004



Category of Service	Operator	Subscriber Base								
		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004 September
Fixed Access Telephone	Wireline (SLTL)	254,522	315,241	455,598	580,199	653,144	706,200	768,620	822,992	847,731
	WLL (Suntek+Lankabell)	527	26,381	67,931	88,914	114,267	118,995	114,488	116,021	126,530
	Total (Fixed)	255,049	341,622	523,529	669,113	767,411	827,195	883,108	939,013	974,261
Cellular	(Celltel, Mobitel, Hutchison, Dialog)	71,079	114,888	174,202	256,655	430,202	667,662	931,580	1,393,403	2,008,355
Total telephone (Fixed+Cellular)		326,128	456,510	697,731	925,768	1,197,613	1,494,857	1,814,688	2,332,416	2,982,616
Data Communications	Internet & Email	2,504	10,195	18,984	25,535	40,497	62,139	75,000*	85,500*	87,500*
Public Payphone Booths		3,002	3,682	4,761	5,799	8,222	6,801	6,681	6,440	5,938
Radio Paging		10,721	10,829	10,511	10,300	7,009	6,178	3,541	2,851	1,700*
Emergency Radio							504	579	144*	144*

Thank you										
END										