

# Press information

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**Apple launch momentum continues...**

*…but progress is slowed by resurgent rivals*

The latest smartphone sales data from Kantar Worldpanel ComTech, for the three months to November 2013, shows Apple’s share of smartphone sales continuing to grow month on month following the release of the iPhone 5S and 5C models. However, its share of most major markets remains lower than the same time last year as it increasingly faces challenges from its rivals.

Dominic Sunnebo, strategic insight director at Kantar Worldpanel ComTech, comments: “While there’s no doubt that sales of the iPhone 5S and 5C have been strong, resurgent performances from LG, Sony and Nokia have made making year on year share gains increasingly challenging for Apple. Windows Phone, for example, is now the third largest OS across Europe with 10.0% – more than double its share compared with last year.”

Apple now accounts for 69.1% of the Japanese market, 43.1% in the United States, 35.0% in Australia and 30.6% in Great Britain.

Strong sales of the iPhone 5S and 5C can be linked to high levels of customer satisfaction with both models, despite fears that the lower-end 5C could damage Apple’s appeal.

Sunnebo continues: “Some people worried that Apple was risking its historically high consumer satisfaction levels by releasing a lower cost, plastic iPhone. However, the latest data for the US shows that the iPhone 5C has an average owner recommendation score of 9.0/10 versus 9.1/10 for the iPhone 5S. Both devices attract different customers but crucially each group of owners remains very happy with their choice and are recommending it to others.”

Around the world

Windows Phone’s gains across Europe have steadied over the past few months, holding at 10.0% in the latest figures. Europe remains a high point for Nokia and Windows, but progress in the world’s two largest smartphone markets remains stubbornly slow with share stuck at 4.7% in the US and 2.7% in China.

Sunnebo comments: “You don’t have to conquer China and the US to win in the smartphone market, but you do need success in one of them. At the moment there are few signs of progress in either country for Windows Phone and momentum needs to be made soon before OS loyalty severely limits the available market.

“China is likely to be the easier and more rewarding target for Windows. After all, Nokia has a huge existing presence in the market, retains strong customer preference and can sell handsets at the right price to capture the huge numbers of people with relatively modest budgets. However, with Microsoft soon running the show it’s hard to imagine a change in strategic direction away from the US.”

Smartphone % penetration in Great Britain stands at 69% in November, with 86% of devices sold in the past three months being smartphones.

\*The big five European markets includes UK, Germany, France, Italy and Spain.

**Ends**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Smartphone OS Sales Share (%)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Germany** | **3 m/e Nov 2012** | **3 m/e Nov 2013** | **% pt. Change** |  | **USA** | **3 m/e Nov 2012** | **3 m/e Nov 2013** | **% pt. Change** |
|  |
|  Android  | 69.5 | 74.7 | 5.2  |  |  Android  | 42.3 | 50.3 | 8.0  |
|  BlackBerry  | 2.1 | 0.8 | -1.3  |  |  BlackBerry  | 1.3 | 0.6 | -0.7  |
|  iOS  | 21.1 | 17.3 | -3.8  |  |  iOS  | 53.0 | 43.1 | -9.9  |
|  Windows  | 1.9 | 5.7 | 3.8  |  |  Windows  | 2.6 | 4.7 | 2.1  |
|  Other  | 5.4 | 1.5 | -3.9  |  |  Other  | 0.7 | 1.3 | 0.6  |
| **GB** | **3 m/e Nov 2012** | **3 m/e Nov 2013** | **% pt. Change** |  | **China**  | **3 m/e Nov 2012** | **3 m/e Nov 2013** | **% pt. Change** |
|  |
|  Android  | 51.5 | 55.7 | 4.2  |  |  Android  | 73.7 | 78.6 | 4.9  |
|  BlackBerry  | 6.5 | 2.4 | -4.1  |  |  BlackBerry  | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0  |
|  iOS  | 36.1 | 30.6 | -5.5  |  |  iOS  | 18.5 | 17.0 | -1.5  |
|  Windows  | 5.1 | 10.8 | 5.7  |  |  Windows  | 2.7 | 2.7 | 0.0  |
|  Other  | 0.8 | 0.5 | -0.3  |  |  Other  | 5.1 | 1.6 | -3.5  |
| **France** | **3 m/e Nov 2012** | **3 m/e Nov 2013** | **% pt. Change** |  | **Australia** | **3 m/e Nov 2012** | **3 m/e Nov 2013** | **% pt. Change** |
|  |
|  Android  | 60.6 | 65.5 | 4.9  |  |  Android  | 58.0 | 55.1 | -2.9  |
|  BlackBerry  | 4.4 | 2.2 | -2.2  |  |  BlackBerry  | 0.7 | 1.4 | 0.7  |
|  iOS  | 23.2 | 18.6 | -4.6  |  |  iOS  | 35.5 | 35.0 | -0.5  |
|  Windows  | 4.2 | 12.9 | 8.7  |  |  Windows  | 4.2 | 6.9 | 2.7  |
|  Other  | 7.7 | 0.7 | -7.0  |  |  Other  | 1.6 | 1.5 | -0.1  |
| **Italy** | **3 m/e Nov 2012** | **3 m/e Nov 2013** | **% pt. Change** |  | **Japan** | **3 m/e Nov 2012** | **3 m/e Nov 2013** | **% pt. Change** |
|  |
|  Android  | 56.3 | 67.9 | 11.6  |  |  Android  | N/A | 30.0 | N/A |
|  BlackBerry  | 3.3 | 1.9 | -1.4  |  |  BlackBerry  |  | 0.1 |  |
|  iOS  | 20.1 | 11.0 | -9.1  |  |  iOS  |  | 69.1 |  |
|  Windows  | 11.8 | 16.0 | 4.2  |  |  Windows  |  | 0.0 |  |
|  Other  | 8.4 | 3.3 | -5.1  |  |  Other  |  | 0.8 |  |
| **Spain** | **3 m/e Nov 2012** | **3 m/e Nov 2013** | **% pt. Change** |  | **EU5**  | **3 m/e Nov 2012** | **3 m/e Nov 2013** | **% pt. Change** |
|  |
|  Android  | 82.5 | 87.3 | 4.8  |  |  Android  | 61.5 | 69.1 | 7.6  |
|  BlackBerry  | 3.9 | 0.2 | -3.7  |  |  BlackBerry  | 4.3 | 1.6 | -2.7  |
|  iOS  | 4.7 | 6.3 | 1.6  |  |  iOS  | 24.6 | 18.1 | -6.5  |
|  Windows  | 1.9 | 4.8 | 2.9  |  |  Windows  | 4.7 | 10.0 | 5.3  |
|  Other  | 6.9 | 1.4 | -5.5  |  |  Other  | 4.9 | 1.3 | -3.6  |

**About Kantar Worldpanel ComTech’s Smartphone OS market share data**

Kantar Worldpanel ComTech’s smartphone OS market share data provides the media and businesses with access to the most up to date sales market share figures for the major smartphone OS.

This information is based on the research extracted from the Kantar Worldpanel ComTech global consumer panel. ComTech is the largest continuous research consumer mobile phone tracking panel of its kind in the world, conducting over one million interviews per year in Europe alone. ComTech tracks mobile phone behaviour, including purchasing of phones, mobile phone bills/airtime, source of purchase and phone usage and delivers beyond market share tracking to understand drivers of share changes, market dynamics through consumer insight - the data included in this release is excluding enterprise sales

**About Kantar Worldpanel**

Kantar Worldpanel is the world leader in consumer knowledge and insights based on continuous consumer panels. Its **High Definition Inspiration™** approach combines market monitoring, advanced analytics and tailored market research solutions to deliver both the big picture and the fine detail that inspire successful actions by its clients. Kantar Worldpanel’s expertise about what people buy or use – and why – has become the market currency for brand owners, retailers, market analysts and government organisations globally.

With over 60 years’ experience, a team of 3,000, and services covering more than 50 countries directly or through partners, Kantar Worldpanel delivers High Definition Inspiration™ in fields as diverse as FMCG, impulse products, fashion, baby, telecommunications and entertainment, among many others.

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