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Mobile Subscriptions in Malawi

- To obtain population density estimates for 2019-2023 we need to have associated call density for these years.
- Since we do not have call density for 2019-2023, we have to use 2016-17 and project call density for 2019-2023 based on mobile usage growth rate in Malawi.
- The basis on which call density is forecasted is worldbank's mobile number subscriptions data for Malawi.
- When Worldbank mentions mobile number subscriptions, what does it mean?

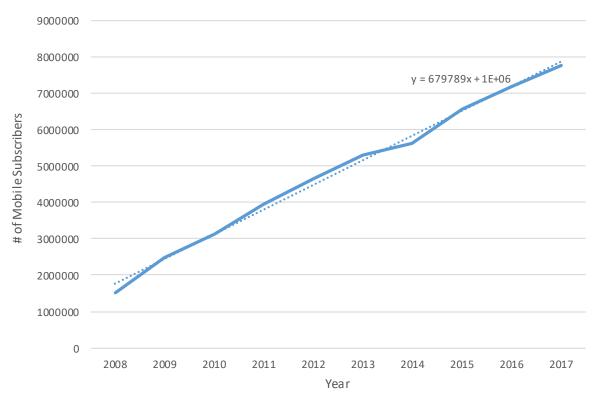
Mobile cellular subscriptions

Mobile cellular telephone subscriptions are subscriptions to a public mobile telephone service that provide access to the PSTN using cellular technology. The indicator includes (and is split into) the number of postpaid subscriptions, and the number of active prepaid accounts (i.e. that have been used during the last three months). The indicator applies to all mobile cellular subscriptions that offer voice communications. It excludes subscriptions via data cards or USB modems, subscriptions to public mobile data services, private trunked mobile radio, telepoint, radio paging and telemetry services.

- This file of worldbank contains information on number of mobile phone subscriptions in Malawi from 1960 to 2017.
- Albeit data is available from 1960s, we would like to consider last 10 years data for our analysis since it is more relevant to consider recent growth in subscriptions than 20 years back in presence of smartphones 3G/4G networks.

Subscriptions graph- Malawi



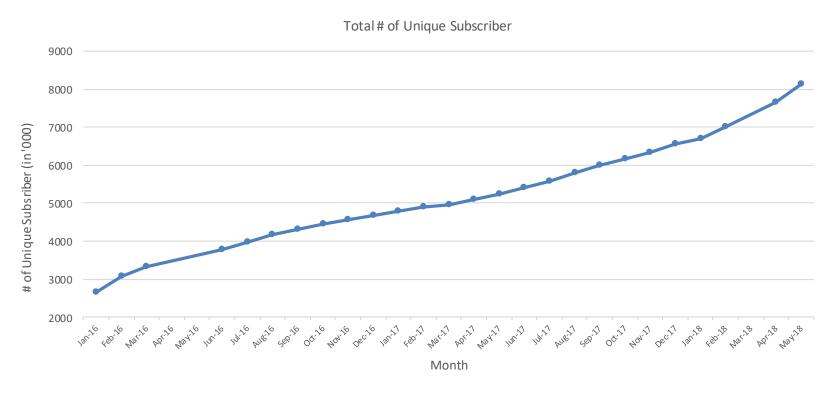


- We see an increasing trend in mobile subscription from 2008-2017.
- Using the trend line in this time interval we forecast the subscriptions from 2019-2023.
- This obtained value can be used to project the call density for 2019-2023 and thus providing population density for 2019-2023.

Reference:-

https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/IT.CEL .SETS

of Active Unique Subscribers Month-on-Month



• # of active unique subscribers are increasing as month increases



Distribution of Cell id year-wise

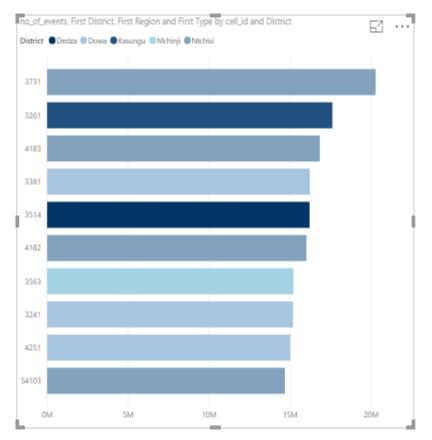
of Distinct Cell id

Type of cell Id	2016	2017	2018	Total
2G	1696	59	158	1913
3G	2156	1175	791	4122
4G	0	2	6	8
Missing type*	13	27	11	51
(blank)	60	242	309	611
Total	3925	1505	1275	6705

^{*} Missing type are those cell_id which has latitude / longitude but not cell Type information in master dataset



Highest used Cell towers (by events)



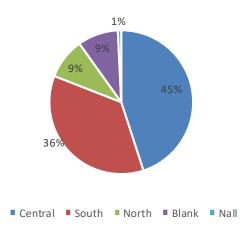
cell_id	no_of_events	First District	First Region	Туре
3731	20285300	Ntchisi	Central	2G
3261	17613262	Kasungu	Central	2G
4183	16837036	Ntchisi	Central	2G
3381	16225224	Dowa	Central	2G
3514	16203868	Dedza	Central	2G
4182	16013034	Ntchisi	Central	2G
3563	15212256	Mchinji	Central	2G
3241	15181080	Dowa	Central	2G
4251	15030106	Dowa	Central	2G
54103	14684412	Ntchisi	Central	2G

- Based on total events generated for entire 26 months of data from a cellid we find cellid 3731 to most event generated tower. This tower is present in Ntchisi district.
- Close observation suggests that top 10 cell ids catering to maximum events are all from central region and all are 2G towers.

Cell Id Distribution

- There are 6705 Cell ld in mno_daily_agg
- Lilongwe and Blantyre are top two district having maximum # of Cell Id
- Lilongwe City and Blantyre City are top TAs having maximum # of Cell Id

Cell Tower distribution by Region



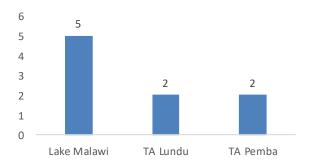
# of cell_id	# of District
0-50	6
50-100	9
100-150	4
150-200	4
200-250	1
250-300	1
300-350	1
350-600	1
600-1100	1
1100-1850	1
>1850	1

# of cell_id	# of TAs
0-10	64
10-20	60
20-30	26
30-40	15
40-50	4
50-60	6
60-70	2
70-80	1
90-130	1
130-240	1
240-610	1
610-930	1
930-1620	1
>1620	1

Cell Id features in Multiple Regions @ TA level

- There are 256 TAs in 28 Districts
- In Master dataset we have 182 Distinct TAs but there are TAs which comes under multiple districts and multiple regions
- These TAs are mostly found to be in border region

TAs coming under multiple district

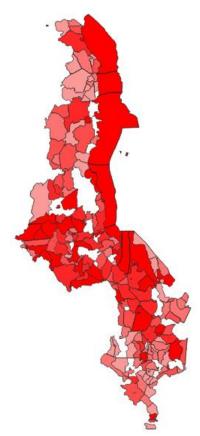


of Cell id features in multiple Region

Row Labels	North		Central	South
Lake Malawi		55	33	15
Ntcheu Boma			18	12
Rumphi Boma		15	3	
SC Goodson Ganya			18	6
SC Kambwiri			3	3
SC Makwangwala			9	9
SC Mbiza			3	27
TA Chadza			41	3
TA Chakhumbira			12	9
TA Kwataine			3	3
TA Mabulabo		15	3	
TA Maganga			37	3
TA Malili			27	3
TA Mazengera			18	3
TA Mlonyeni			12	2
TA Mpando			6	6
TA Njolomole			24	15
TA Phambala			15	Infoo9
TA Zulu			51	

Navigate your next

TAs without Cell Ids



Kataba Bangweulu Wetlands Niassa H Block Mwaleshi emalisques le Leshwe South Nkhotakota Luangwa National Park Lichinga Chibale Malawi Mukopa Mangochi l Park NO DATA WEAK STRONG SIGNAL COLLECTED SIGNAL Karoi

Indicates TA units with cell ids Brightness of red varies on total events generated

Airtel coverage map Source:-https://opensignal.com/networks

Brown areas indicate TA units without cell ids

TAs without Cell Ids zone wise

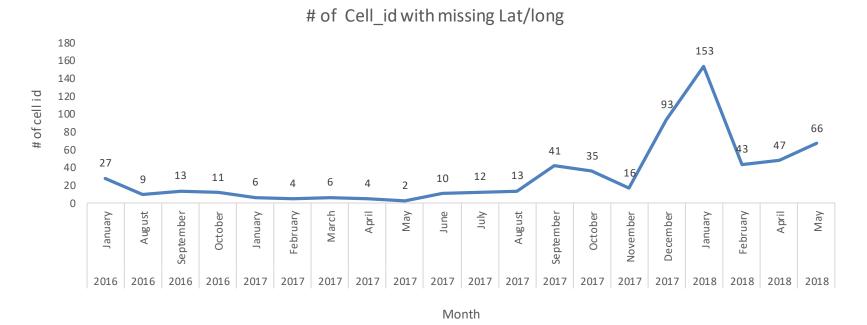


Region	Total TAs present	TAs without cell ids	% TAs without cell ids
South	107	29	27.10
Central	95	18	18.94
North	48	15	31.25
Total	255	62	24.31

• A total of 24.3% of TAs units don't have a cell id in its boundary. This 24.3 % of TAs unit translates to a total of around 15.66% of Malawi area.

Uncovered TAs units with respect to cell ids. Brightness of red varies according to the area of the unit.

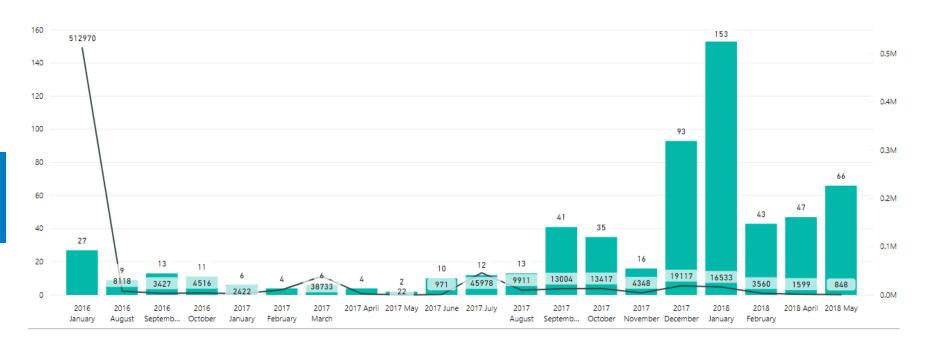
Cell Id Distribution with Missing lat/long



• We found that after November 2017' huge surge in # of cell_id with missing lat/long



Distribution of Cell Id with missing Lat/Long as per Month



- Bar chart refers to # of cell id without lat/long getting its first call on that month (X-axis)
- Line chart refer to # of calls made from respective cell id on that month
- We found that after November 2017' huge surge in # of cell_id with missing lat/long



Distribution of Cell id with missing lat/long across # Active Subscribers and # of calls made

# of Unique Active subscriber (SIM –Id)	# of Cell_id
0-1000	554
1000-2000	23
2000-3000	2
3000-4000	3
4000-5000	6
5000-6000	4
6000-8000	1
8000-9000	5
9000-10000	1
10000-11000	2
11000-13000	2
13000-15000	1
15000-16000	1
16000-19000	3
19000-20000	1
20000-318000	1
>318000	1

• 554 cell id are used by around 1000 active unique subscribers.

# of Calls	# of Cell_id
0-7500	461
7500-15000	79
15000-22500	21
22500-30000	6
30000-37500	5
37500-45000	6
45000-52500	3
52500-60000	1
60000-67500	4
67500-75000	4
75000-82500	3
82500-97500	3
97500-105000	2
105000-135000	5
135000-165000	1
165000-195000	1
195000-202500	4
202500-2640000	1
>2640000	1

• 461 cell id are used to make upto 7500 calls.



Distribution of Cell id with missing Lat/long as per # of Active Days

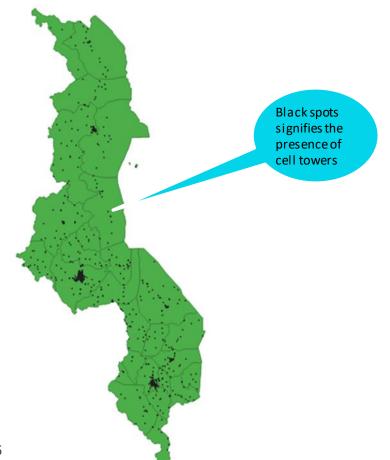
# of Active days	# of cell_id
0-50	170
50-100	42
100-150	169
150-200	107
200-250	51
250-300	38
300-350	2
350-400	6
400-450	1
450-550	7
550-850	8
>850	10

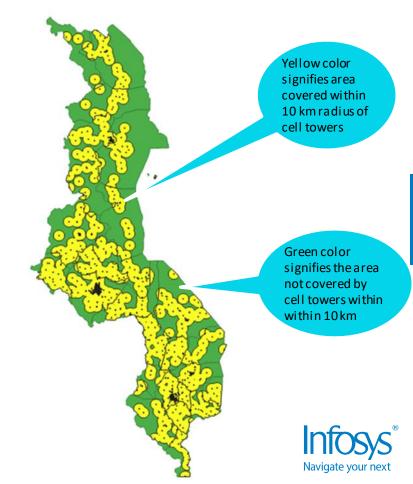


- Earliest and latest calls made through of Cell Id with missing Lat/ Long and number of calls is stored in the excel object.
- Number of active days=(Earliest call date –last call date) for a particular cell id.
- 170 cell id was active for a maximum of 50 days



Area covered by Cell Towers within 10 Km



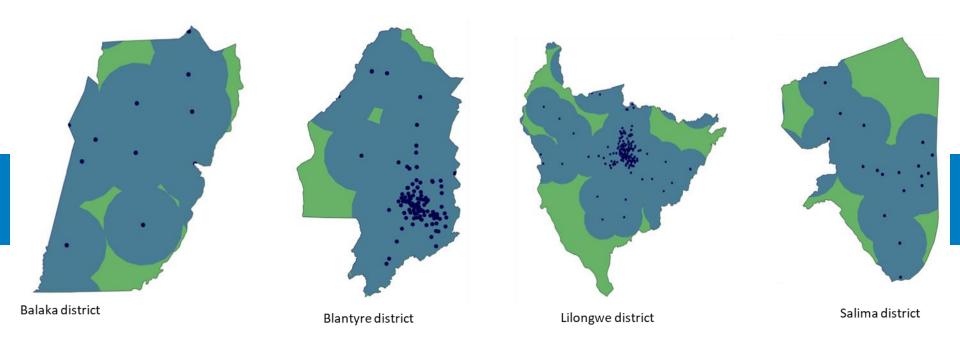


Area not covered by Cell Towers within 10 Km





Area covered by Cell Tower within 10 Km @ ADM1



- Black spot signifies location of cell towers
- Blue color signifies the area covered by cell towers within 10 Km of radius
- Green color signifies the area not covered by the cell tower within 10 Km of radius



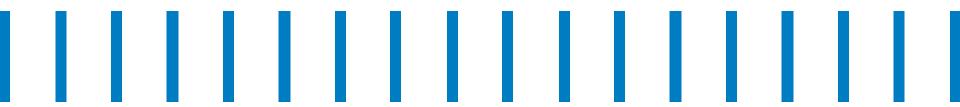
Malawi population coverage as per Health Posts and Cell Towers

Malawi population coverage			
Description	Population coverage (%)		
Population coverage within 5 km radius of the Health posts	74.12		
Population coverage within 10 km radius of the cell towers	84.65		

^{**}Only Dispensary, Health Centre, Health Post and Hospital facilities are in our scope of health services



THANK YOU





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