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Mobile phone
ownership
over time

Who owns
cellphones
and
smartphones

Ownership of
other devices

Smartphone
dependency
over time

Who is
smartphone
dependent

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Mobile Fact Sheet

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In contrast to the largely stationary internet of the early 2000s, Americans today are increasingly connected to the world of digital information while “on the go” via smartphones and other mobile devices. Explore the patterns and trends that have shaped the mobile revolution below.



Mobile phone ownership over time

The vast majority of Americans – 96% – now own a cellphone of some kind. The share of Americans that own smartphones is now 81%, up from just 35% in Pew Research Center’s first survey of smartphone ownership conducted in 2011. Along with mobile phones,

