

# **China s 5G base station electricity consumption**





## Overview

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For China, based on a single base station power's energy consumption of 11.5 KWh (Huawei, 2019), we estimate that the electricity consumed by its 5G network by 2030 will be  $6.04 \times 10^5$  GW for 6 mill.

How much energy does a 5G base station use?

China Mobile's measurement report 9 indicates that the energy consumption of a 5G base station is 4.3 kWh, which is four times that of a 4G base station at 1.1 kWh. One 5G base station is estimated to produce 30 t of carbon emissions in one year of operation 10.

How much carbon does 5G emit in China in 2021?

The results indicate that, due to the high carbon emissions resulting from the new infrastructure, the carbon emissions of 5G base stations in China in 2021 amounted to 49.2 MtCO<sub>2</sub> eq.

How bad is 5G in China?

Thus, 5G networks in China are roughly estimated to produce over 60 Mt of carbon emissions annually at the national level 11. Such high energy consumption and carbon emissions may cause severe environmental problems and conflict with global sustainable development goals (SDGs) 12.

How many 5G base stations are built in China?

As 5G serves as the foundation for the construction of new infrastructure, China, as the world leader in 5G base station construction, has already built over 1.4 million 5G base stations in 2021 alone. In the same year, 5G base stations in China produced approximately 49.2 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> eq.



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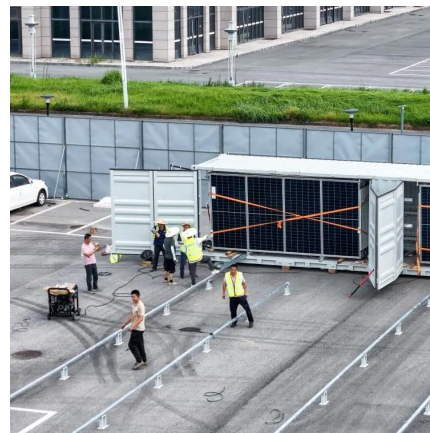


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