



# CRAN

Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia

## QUARTERLY STATISTICS NEWSLETTER

### Q4 OF 2023

Information obtained from Telecommunications and Broadcasting Service Licensees (as per their licence conditions) is utilised to compile this report for the period 01 October 2023 to 31 December 2023

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUBSCRIBERS	TRAFFIC	BROADCASTERS	POSTAL
<p>There was little movement in the number of active SIM cards.</p> <p>66% of SIM cards are registered as of the end of Q4 2023.</p> <p>Fixed-line subscriptions continues its decline.</p>	<p>Overall traffic experienced a slight increase.</p>	<p>Broadcasting sector revenue remained stable.</p>	<p>The postal service declined.</p>

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# 1. Mobile Subscribers

During the fourth quarter of 2023, there was consistency in the number of active SIM cards, showing no notable variations. Additionally, there was a slight increase of 1% in mobile broadband subscriptions, resulting in 66% of SIM cards being utilised for Internet access.

Table 1: Mobile subscriber numbers in 1000s		2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	% change
Active SIM cards ('000)	Prepaid	2,694	2,701	2,706	2,565	2,401	2,416	2,389	-1%
	Postpaid	204	205	200	202	202	204	209	2%
	Total	2,898	2,906	2,906	2,766	2,603	2,620	2,598	-1%
Mobile Broadband ('000)	Mobile Phone	1,905	1,925	1,965	1,802	1,719	1,689	1,716	2%
	Dongle / Routers	19	23	22	20	20	20	19	-1%
	Total	1,923	1,948	1,987	1,822	1,738	1,708	1,735	2%
% of SIM using Internet		66%	66%	68%	65%	66%	64%	66%	2%

# 2. Percentage of SIM Cards Registered

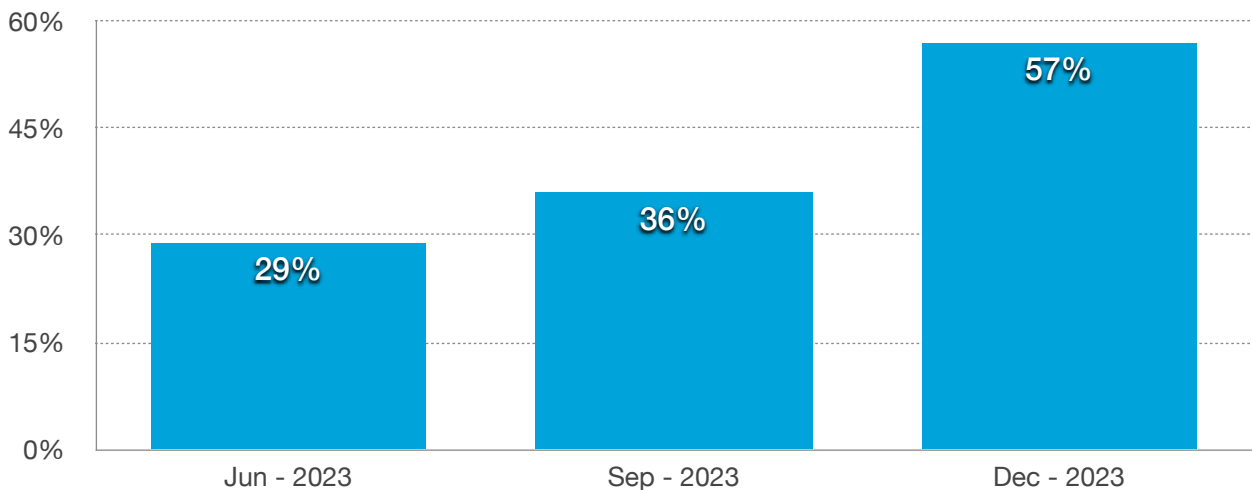


Figure 1: Percentage of SIM cards registered

As of the end of Q4 of 2023, 57% of SIM cards were registered. As of 26 January 2024 70.97% of all SIM cards were registered.

### 3. Fixed-line Subscribers

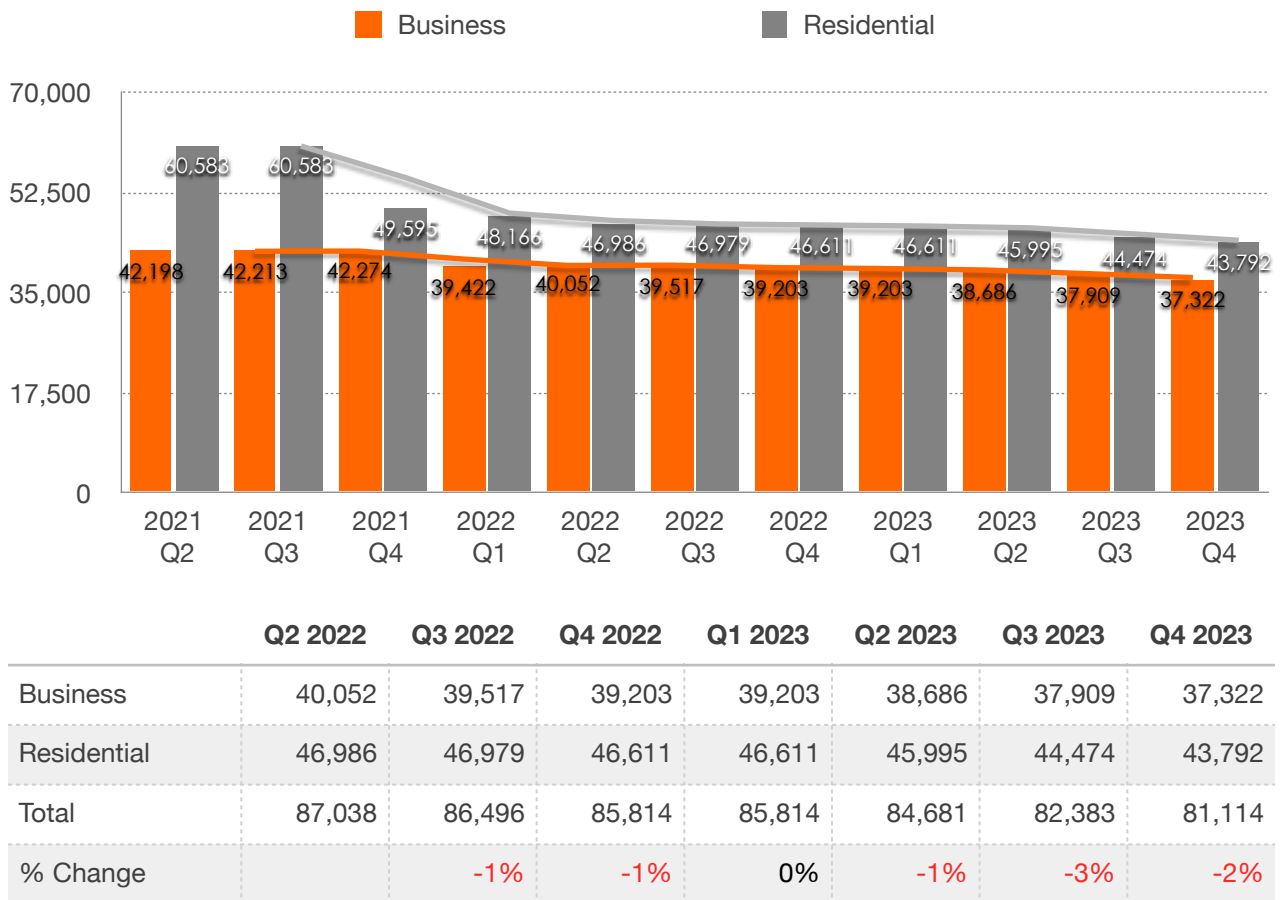


Figure 2: Fixed-line Subscribers

Both business and residential fixed-line subscriptions continued the declining trend. This is an international trend and as mobile coverage increases fixed lines will continue to decrease.

## 4. Other Subscribers

In Q4 2023, high-speed Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL) connections of 10 Mbps and above significantly increased by 78%, offsetting a 5% decline in overall ADSL subscriptions. Fibre to the Premises (FTTx) and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) saw notable increases of 15% and 34% respectively. It is an indication that Namibians are moving to high-speed connections. MetroNet, leased lines, other wireless subscriptions, and Satellite/VSAT subscriptions declined.

Table 2: Other subscribers		2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	% change
ADSL	10 Mbps and above	6,464	6,947	7,322	7,739	8,084	5,357	9,552	78%
	2 to 10 Mbps	61,580	62,328	62,885	63,226	63,661	68,301	60,705	-11%
	below 2Mbps	625	596	582	554	621	604	580	-4%
	Total	68,669	69,871	70,789	71,519	72,366	74,262	70,837	-5%
Fibre to the premises (FTTx)		14,263	15,412	17,169	20,803	22,110	23,193	26,663	15%
MetroNet (ethernet)		157	147	147	139	252	252	245	-3%
Leased lines		2,354	2,207	2,082	1,775	1,608	1,492	1,398	-6%
Other wireless		3,466	3,247	3,602	4,227	4,071	3,822	3,791	-1%
Satellite / VSAT		1,177	1,333	1,308	1,362	1,372	1,368	1,353	-1%
VoIP		3,310	3,395	3,884	4,866	4,204	4,207	5,636	34%

## 5. Traffic

In Q4 2023, total mobile outgoing minutes increased by 3%, with SMS send and mobile data use in GB increasing by 2% and 9% respectively. In contrast, fixed-line outgoing minutes declined by 10% whereas mobile voice minutes showed an increase, especially for off-net minutes.

Table 3: Traffic		2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	% change
Mobile outgoing ('000)	On net minutes	2,002,409	2,153,453	2,167,596	2,041,460	2,039,802	2,194,053	2,242,707	2%
	Off-net mobile minutes	62,874	68,701	71,771	73,155	75,965	85,932	96,203	12%
	Off-net fixed-line minutes	18,711	19,480	19,826	19,038	18,037	19,024	26,566	40%
	International minutes	2,595	2,619	2,867	2,634	3,006	2,704	2,664	-1%
	Total	2,086,588	2,244,253	2,262,060	2,136,287	2,136,809	2,301,714	2,368,139	3%

Table 3: Traffic		2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	% change
	SMS send	2,289,619	2,314,126	2,348,651	2,165,430	2,085,654	2,069,918	2,105,784	2%
	Mobile Data use in GB ('000)	23,850	23,894	24,776	24,418	26,028	28,039	30,668	9%
	Fixed line Outgoing minutes ('000)	22,536	24,035	22,701	22,465	21,201	22,200	19,988	-10%

## 6. Telecommunications Services Revenue

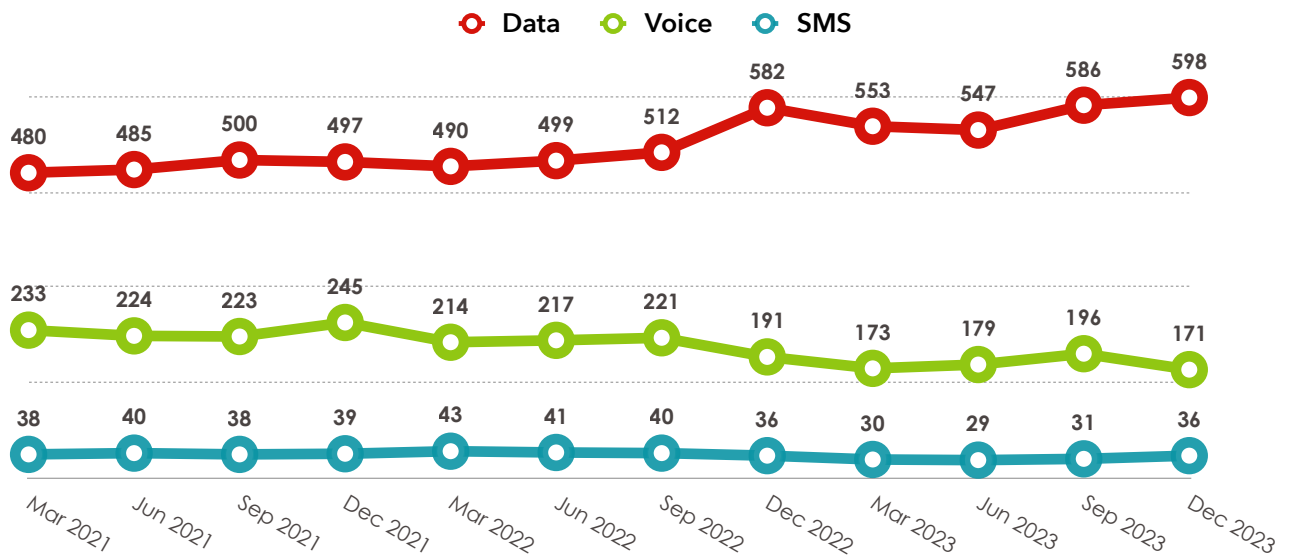


Figure 3: Data, Voice & SMS Revenue in million

During Q4 of 2023, data revenue continues to increase, in line with a 9% growth in data usage. Similarly, SMS revenue trended slightly upwards, in line with the 2% increase in SMS sent. However, voice revenue remained stagnant.

## 7. Telecommunications Services Investment

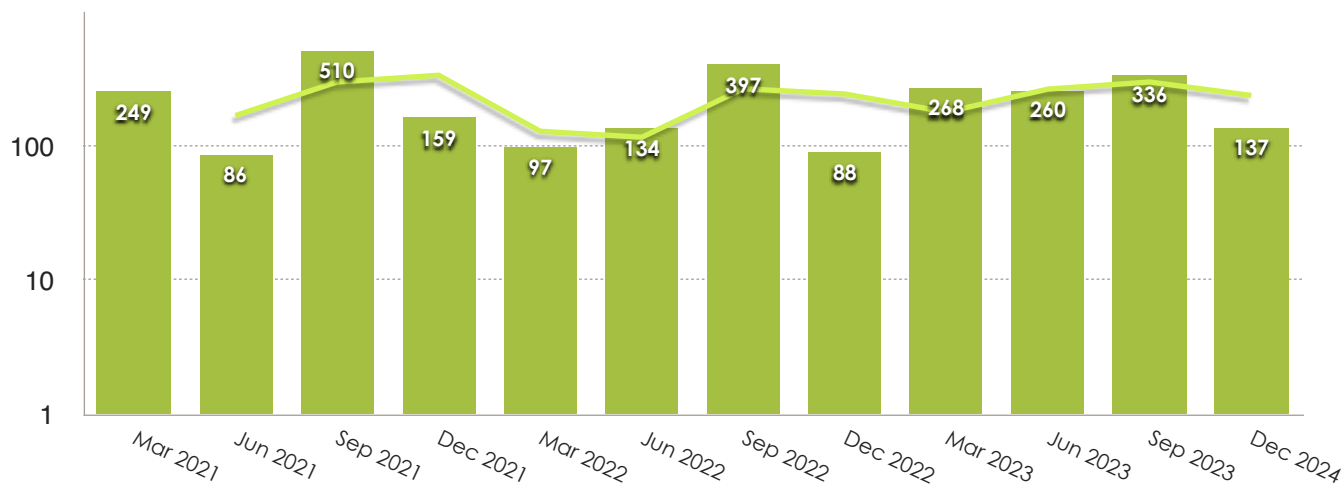


Figure 3: Telecommunication Investment in millions

In the Q4 of 2023, total investment in the Telecommunications sector experienced a significant 59% decline. Such fluctuations in investment are intrinsic to the sector's dynamic nature, marked by evolving technologies, changing consumer preferences, and regulatory shifts. Compared to the same period in the prior year, there was a noteworthy 56% increase in investment.

## 8. Broadcasting Services

By the end of Q4 2023, there were a total of 37 active broadcasting licenses.

Table 4: Licensed Broadcasters		2021 Q4	2022 Q1	2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
Category	Signal distributors	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Public broadcasters	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Commercial broadcasters	21	21	21	20	21	21	21	21	21
	Community broadcasters	15	15	14	13	14	13	14	14	14
<b>Total</b>		38	38	37	35	37	36	37	37	37

The broadcasting sector's revenue remained stable during Q4 of 2023, with advertisement revenue accounting for only 21% of total broadcasting services revenue.

<b>Table 5: Broadcasters Revenue</b>	<b>2022 Q1</b>	<b>2022 Q2</b>	<b>2022 Q3</b>	<b>2022 Q4</b>	<b>2023 Q1</b>	<b>2023 Q2</b>	<b>2023 Q3</b>	<b>2023 Q4</b>	<b>Change (%)</b>
Advertisement revenue ("000")	18,409	22,828	17,009	23,844	17,630	20,618	19,801	24,277	23%
Other Revenue ("000")	204,641	208,144	208,773	214,419	205,928	208,779	213,979	212,663	-1%
Total Revenue ("000")	223,050	230,972	225,782	238,263	223,558	229,397	233,780	236,940	1%
Advertisement as % of total	8%	10%	8%	10%	8%	9%	8%	10%	21%

\*Namibia Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) is not included in this dataset.

In Q4 of 2023, Pay TV subscriptions witnessed an overall decline of 9%. This may be due to consumers opting for online streaming platforms like Netflix, Apple TV, and Showmax.

<b>Table 6: Pay TV Subscribers</b>	<b>2022 Q1</b>	<b>2022 Q2</b>	<b>2022 Q3</b>	<b>2022 Q4</b>	<b>2023 Q1</b>	<b>2023 Q2</b>	<b>2023 Q3</b>	<b>2023 Q4</b>	<b>Change (%)</b>
Digital Terrestrial (Go TV)	59,523	58,622	56,129	50,039	56,878	50,504	49,993	44,231	-12%
Satellite TV (DSTV)	128,356	120,238	124,703	123,456	126,740	115,956	122,344	112,440	-8%
<b>Total</b>	187,879	178,860	180,832	173,495	183,618	166,460	172,337	156,671	-9%



## 9. Postal Services

In Q4 of 2023, postal services operations experienced a decline, marked by a 43% decrease in occupied postboxes and a 24% decrease in occupied private bags, possibly influenced by the growing preference for digital communication methods and the increasing reliance on electronic mail and messaging services.

Table 7: Post Boxes	2022 Q1	2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	Change (%)
Number of Letterboxes	124,210	124,210	124,210	124,210	124,210	124,210	123,910	123,910	0%
Number of Postboxes occupied	81,332	83,269	83,269	47,171	73,339	75,282	80,911	45,865	-43%
Occupancy %	65%	67%	67%	38%	59%	61%	65%	37%	-43%
Number of Private bags	871	877	877	883	883	883	883	883	0%
Number of Private bags occupied	421	437	456	385	390	443	443	336	-24%
Occupancy %	48%	50%	52%	44%	44%	50%	50%	38%	-24%
Number of Postal Establishments	133	134	133	133	137	139	139	139	0%
Post Offices in rural areas (including mobile post offices)	116	116	116	116	116	116	116	116	0%
% of Post Office services in rural areas	87%	87%	87%	87%	85%	83%	83%	83%	0%



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