

# Electronics in FOCUS

How bright is the future  
for mobile phone  
accessories?

global  sources



# Introduction

Mobile phone accessories face a gainful future with the increasing penetration of smartphones. Smartphone shipments are increasing despite global uncertainties, even if this growth may not be as high as in pre-pandemic times. Key to the growth are lower smartphone prices and innovative designs, as well as the deployment of 4G and 5G long-term evolution (LTE) networks.

Geographically, the fastest growth is taking place in the Asia-Pacific region, which comprises the world's largest smartphone market with a mix of 4G phones, including 4G flip phones, as well as 5G units.

Some key statistics:

- 1.38 billion units – Global smartphone shipments reached 1.38 billion units in 2021, up 7.7 percent from 2020 when there was a decline due to lower discretionary spending among end users at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic
- 3.7 percent – Forecast growth of mobile phone shipments from 2022 to 2027
- US\$86.6 billion – Value of the mobile phone accessories market in 2021
- 6.7 percent – Forecast growth of mobile phone accessories from 2021 to 2031



- US\$166 billion – Forecast value of the mobile phone accessories market in 2031
- China, South Korea, Japan – Largest phone accessories markets
- 78 percent – Share of the United States in total accessories sales in North America

#smartphones #4G #5G

# Accessories keep pace with smartphone growth

As important tools for mobile application services, mobile phones have been upgraded with the continuous development of technology. Larger screens, high-definition display, multi-core CPU, multi-mode and multi-frequency functions are among key upgrades.

Accessories are now more varied and include wired, wireless, and portable chargers; mobile phone cases; and screen protector films. True wireless earbuds and noise-cancelling headphones are among popular smartphone accessories. Mobile phone components include LCD screens for Apple iPhone as well as Android phones.

Laws in some regions may also have an impact on mobile phone accessories. For instance, a recent development in the European Union is that come autumn 2024, all smartphones for sale in the bloc must have a USB-C port for charging. The move toward a common charger is in line with the EU's drive to reduce electronic waste.

#mobileapp #technology #wireless



# Mobile phone chargers

Besides wired, wireless and portable chargers, other charging products available for sourcing are: charging heads, charging cables, and power banks. Charging heads have developed from being able to charge only a single electronic device to now having the ability to charge multiple devices simultaneously. Power bank capacities have increased from less than 1000mAh to 20000mAh or higher.

Wireless chargers, valued at US\$9 billion in 2020, will increase to US\$13.4 billion in 2025 at a CAGR of 8.1 percent. The number of wireless charging enabled smartphones is expected to exceed 2.2 billion units by 2026, with Asia-Pacific and Western Europe accounting for the highest shares.

Fast chargers are on an uptrend, aided by technology development in the form of GaN switches and flat-panel transformers. The fast charger market was valued at US\$15.5 billion in 2022 and is forecast to have a CAGR of 40 percent in the next three years.

#charger #portable



# Smartphone cases

The smartphone case market is expected to reach US\$990 million by the end of 2026 with a CAGR of 5.4 percent from 2021 to 2026. In 2022, the global demand for smartphone cases is forecast to exceed 1.49 billion units.

Mobile phone case designs will tend to follow consumer preferences, allowing for personalization to make their phones look unique. Since drop resistance is also a key demand of users, this will also be a product differentiator among mobile phone cases.

#personalization #cases



# Screen protector films

The smartphone market continues to grow with the development of mobile phones. As smartphone screens get bigger, the cost of replacing phone screens is correspondingly higher and screen protector films become important peripheral products. Smartphone screen protector films are constantly evolving. In addition to basic

protection features like making units water-resistant, screen protector films are now of varied types, including privacy or anti-peeping films, matte films, gaming films, and anti-blue light films.

#protection #waterresistant #privacy #antiblue



# LCD screens

The increase in 5G smartphone shipments is driving the steady growth of LCD screens as mobile phone components. Early in 2022, 5G phones, including Android smartphones, surpassed sales of 4G models for the first time, accounting for 51 percent of devices sold. As such, smartphone LCD screen purchases by OEMs are forecast to remain stable.

Display screens have become a key factor in purchase decisions of consumers. End users now prefer that their smartphones have displays much like that of computer screens which offer crisp text, sharp images, and vibrant colors. Mobile phone manufacturers are quick to respond to these expectations. After all, nowadays smartphones are no longer just for communication but are infotainment devices as well.

#OEM #screens



# Summary

The future of the mobile phone accessories market is extremely bright as countries accelerate their pace toward digitalization in the post-pandemic period. The sector benefits from the continuous #tech upgrades and increasing penetration of 4G and 5G smartphones worldwide.

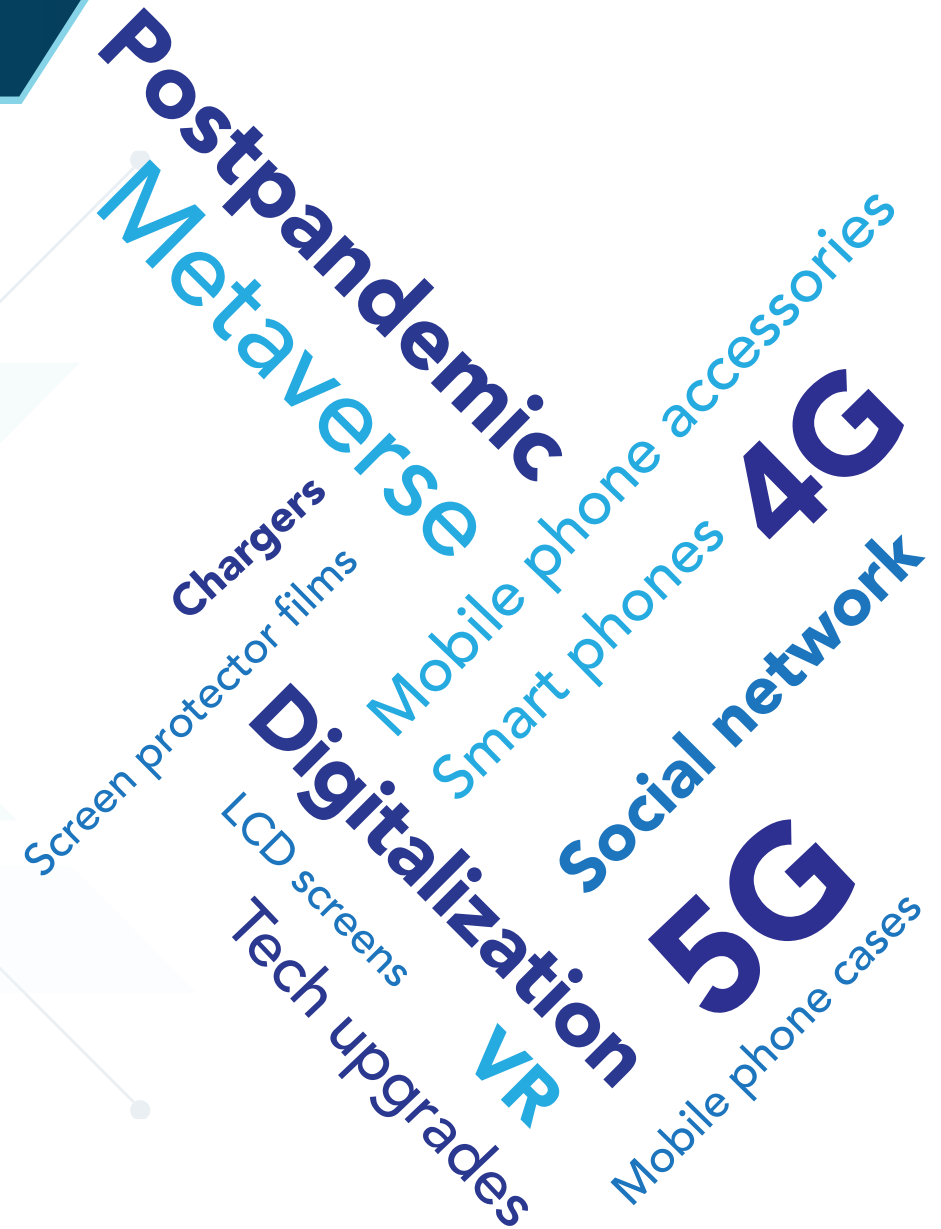
Mobile phone accessories include wired and wireless chargers, phone cases, ANC and TWS earbuds and screen protector films, as well as mobile phone components, particularly LCD screens.

The mobile phone accessories market was valued at \$86.6 billion in 2021 and is forecast to have a 6.7 percent CAGR within a 10-year period to reach US\$166 billion value in 2031.

The Asia-Pacific region is where the fastest growth is taking place, with China, South Korea and Japan being the highest growth centers.

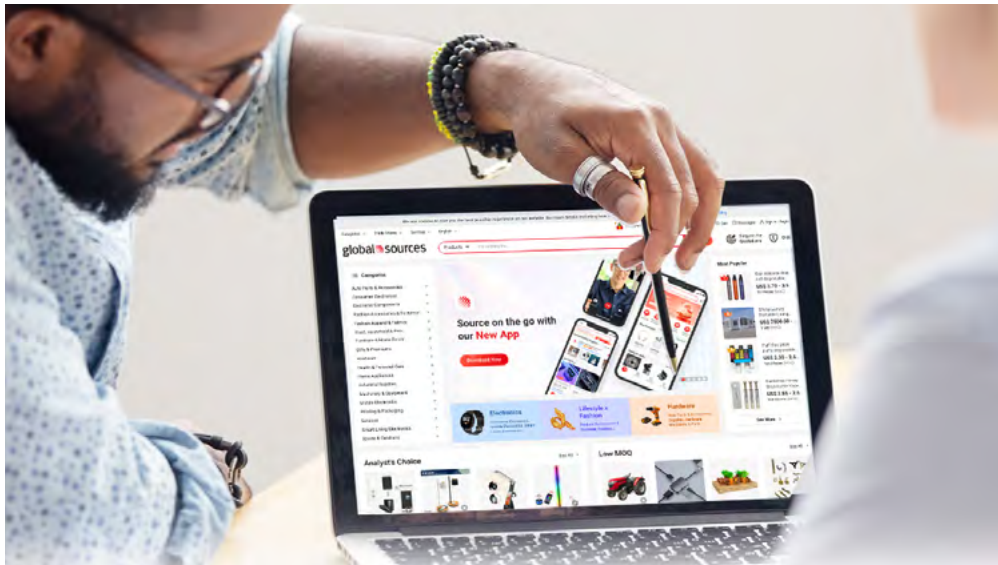
Mobile phone accessories will play a vital role in the future, especially amid industry moves to transform the social network part of the Internet into a metaverse, where social connections and experiences will happen through avatars in VR communities.

#digitalization #postpandemic #4G #5G #TWS  
#socialnetwork #metaverse #VR #manufacturers



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