

‘Chinese smartphone vendors take a record 32% market share in Europe in 2018’ says Canalys

Palo Alto, Shanghai, Singapore and Reading (UK) – Thursday, 14 February 2019

Canalys estimates show that European smartphone shipments fell 4% in 2018 to 197 million units. In Q4 2018, shipments fell 2% to 57 million, though Chinese vendors gained significantly. Samsung remained the largest vendor in 2018 but its shipments were down over 10% at 61.6 million units. Apple was down 6% but clung onto second place with 42.8 million units shipped.

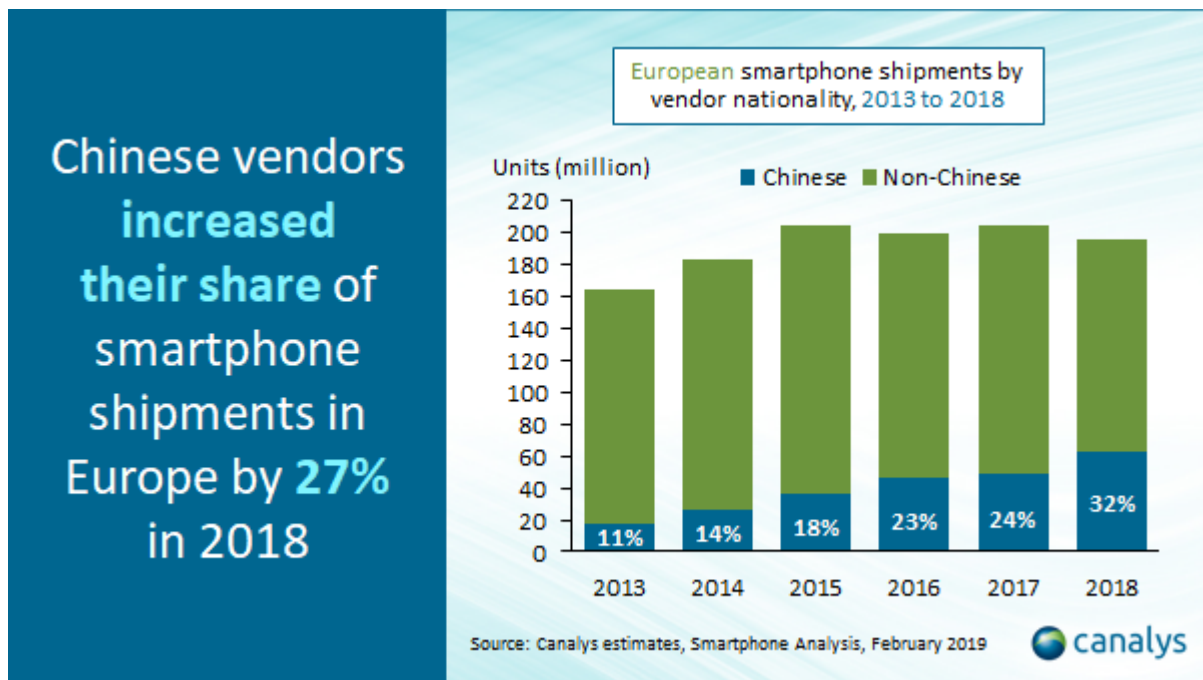


Chinese #smartphone vendors take a record 32% market share in Europe in 2018 - via @Canalys <https://tinyurl.com/y39w8n4z> " #Samsung @SamsungMobile #Apple @HuaweiMobile @Xiaomi @HMDGlobal

Huawei was the stand-out vendor, growing 54% with 42.5 million shipments. Relative newcomers Xiaomi and HMD Global grew strongly and were fourth and fifth respectively.

“The political situation between Chinese companies and the US government has benefited European consumers,” said

Senior Analyst Ben Stanton. “The US administration is causing Chinese companies to invest in Europe over the US. The European market is mature, and replacement rates have lengthened, but there is an opportunity for Chinese brands to displace the market incumbents. The likes of Huawei and Xiaomi bring price competition that has stunned their rivals as they use their size against the smaller brands in Europe.”



Western European smartphone shipments fell 8%, the biggest decline of the sub-regions, to 128 million units in 2018, the lowest level since 2013. An increase in average selling prices, caused by an uplift in flagship pricing by Apple, Samsung and Huawei, offset some of the declines. Central and Eastern Europe continued to grow in 2018, up 5% to 68 million units. Many countries in CEE have now reached maturity, but Russia remains a strong grower, up 14% year on year in 2018.

“There are interesting country-level differences in Western Europe,” said Stanton. “The markets with the highest ASPs, such as the UK, Germany and the Nordics, have suffered the sharpest declines. There hasn’t been innovation in the flagship smartphone space to entice customers to upgrade. But in countries with lower ASPs, such as Italy and Spain, there was growth in 2018. This reflects a transformation in the mid-range segment in 2018, with notch displays and dual cameras coming down to aggressive price points. Unlike at the high end, the caliber of smartphones available for US\$300 changed significantly between 2017 and 2018, which helped facilitate upgrades. Smartphones priced between US\$200 and US\$350 grew over 20% in Western Europe in 2018. Canalys expects Chinese vendors will continue growing across all price segments in 2019.”

For detailed highlights please [contact Canalys](#).

European smartphone shipments and annual growth
Canalys Smartphone Market: Q4 2018

Vendor	Q4 2018 shipments (million)	Q4 2018 Market share	Q4 2017 shipments (million)	Q4 2017 Market share	Annual growth
Samsung	16.2	28.7%	16.4	28.3%	-1.0%
Apple	14.7	26.0%	15.5	26.8%	-5.1%
Huawei	13.3	23.6%	8.6	14.8%	+55.7%
Xiaomi	3.4	6.0%	2.1	3.6%	+62.0%
HMD Global	1.3	2.4%	1.6	2.8%	-18.3%
Others	7.6	13.4%	13.8	23.7%	-44.8%
Total	56.6	100.0%	58.0	100.0%	-2.3%

Source: Canalys Smartphone Analysis (sell-in shipments), February 2019

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About Canalys

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