

Commercial deployment of Open RAN in networks is an indicator of the technology's maturity. Open RAN's promise has long been recognized for its potential for customized solutions for the enterprise increasingly at the edge often executed in private networks

Open RAN is on a path to maturity and commercial viability by 2026

Security and integration of diverse technologies and vendors are sticking points

Adoption of commercial Open RAN is modest as of end-2021. Future projections indicate significant acceleration before growth tapers off between 2023 and 2025

Timing of deployment



Open RAN is wrestling with formidable challenges of security, and integration of technologies, ecosystems and vendors

Challenges on measures "4" or "5", with "5" being the most significant



First introduced as a cost-effective option for serving underserved and mountainous regions, the industry has a mixed understanding of the total cost of ownership (TCO) benefits

How telecom professionals think Open RAN will impact TCO



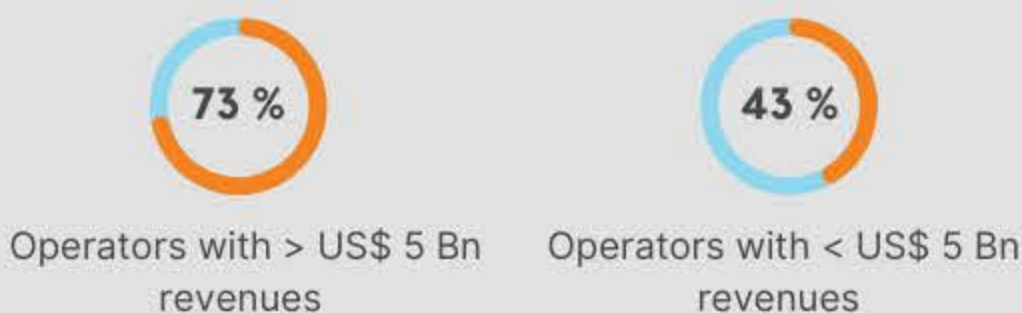
Open RAN clears the way for some novel monetization opportunities with its flexibility

Top three monetization avenues measured as the most important



Private networks have the leeway to exploit the flexibility in the Open RAN environment. Larger operators catering to larger global enterprise are more inclined to use private networks

Operators who intend to use Open RAN in private networks



Sources:

1. Heavy Reading, 2021 Open RAN Operator Survey
2. Telecoms.com Intelligence, Annual Industry Survey 2021 Report