

\$200B

to America's economy over the next 10 years.

The U.S. is *disharmonized* with global spectrum trends, most notably in the **3, 4,** and **6 GHz bands.** 



By accelerating the allocation of harmonized mid-band spectrum, the U.S. can enable its trusted vendors to benefit from economies of scale [which will help] ensure that global network infrastructure for 5G and future generations uses trusted and secure equipment.





# Up to \$200B in U.S. Economic Benefits Depends on 5G Spectrum Harmonization

Allocating internationally harmonized mid-band spectrum for 5G will add up to \$200B for America's economy over the next 10 years, while failing to harmonize 5G spectrum allocations puts these benefits at risk by isolating America's wireless industry and limiting America's "future leadership of the global wireless ecosystem," according to research from Accenture.

## The U.S. Risks Becoming a Spectrum Island Without Access to More Harmonized, Full-power, Licensed Mid-band

The U.S. is increasingly becoming a spectrum outlier when it comes to allocating full-power, licensed spectrum for 5G services. The U.S. is behind its peers and rivals in allocating mid-band spectrum for 5G. The commercial spectrum pipeline has run dry, threatening the industry's ability to meet future demand. Even worse, the U.S. is out of step with the approach other countries are taking on key 5G bands, at risk of becoming its own spectrum island.

### A Lack of Harmonized 5G Spectrum Undermines U.S. Competitiveness

The United States can best secure its wireless leadership by licensing key internationally recognized 5G bands. Economies of scale and simplification of components reduce expenses throughout the entire wireless value chain, lowering the cost of services and devices for end-users. Allocating globally recognized 5G spectrum maximizes downstream growth and innovation, with those leading harmonization benefitting from first-mover advantages in new technological ecosystems. Failing to follow global 5G allocations will cost us billions in lost innovation and productivity and higher network costs.

# Adopting Global 5G Bands Supports Trusted Vendors and National Security

Allocating internationally harmonized 5G bands also supports the goal of securing the equipment supply chain, according to Accenture. Policymakers have long sought to bolster a healthy supply chain of trusted equipment, but spectrum policy remains an underappreciated tool to ensure trusted suppliers have the global economies of scale needed to compete with Chinese vendors, and don't have to develop unique equipment just for the U.S. market.

#### Two Immediate Opportunities Stand Out: Lower 3 and 7/8 GHz

The Administration is studying two bands that could immediately address this challenge. The lower 3 GHz band is a well-established 5G band around the world. The United States can quickly move forward to provide similar access by segmenting the band to support both military and full-power commercial use.

The 7/8 GHz band is one of the few near-term options for U.S. leadership in harmonizing the next wave of mobile spectrum. Radios can tune across upper 6 into the greater 7 GHz band, allowing the United States to support and benefit from economies of scale for 5G in the 6 GHz band.