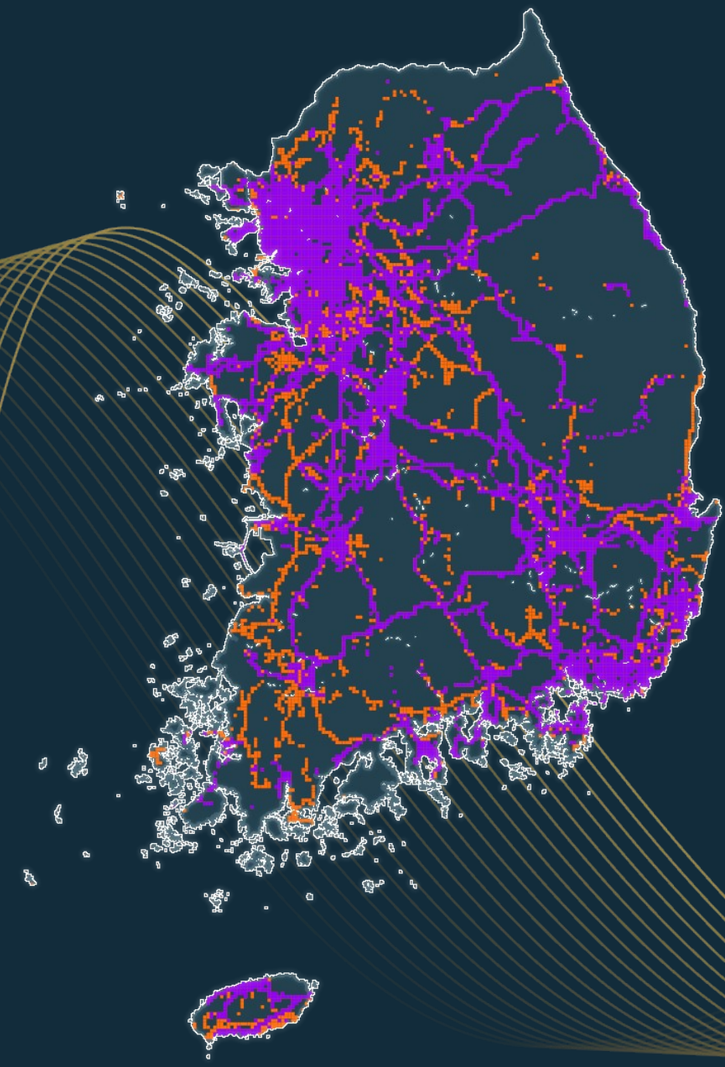
September 2026

Barometer of mobile coverage in South Korea

4G/5G



09/01/2025 - 08/31/2026



V1.0

Agenda

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An independent authority in network performance

nPerf is an independent French Internet performance measurement platform, powered by real user experience.
By turning millions of individual measurements into connectivity insights, nPerf helps operators enhance their networks and contributes to building a faster, more reliable Internet for everyone.

300k+ tests daily worldwide.

26Md+ coverage scans in total.

3k+ servers all around the world.

A comprehensive suite of tools to measure real-world connectivity

nPerf provides a complete ecosystem of complete measurement tools designed to capture the true quality of fixed, mobile, and Wi-Fi connections with precision, reaching speeds of up to 10 Gbps.

Users test. Operators learn. Everyone benefits.

Download on the App Store

Available on Google Play

Test your connection on nPerf.com

2. Methodology (1/2) — Measuring coverage in the field

A field study, not a simulation

Mobile operators publish coverage maps computed from radio-propagation models. This barometer contains no modelling: every figure comes from measurements recorded in the field by real users, in real conditions of use — outdoors, indoors, in a car or on a train. It complements the operators' theoretical maps; it does not replace them.

A crowdsourced panel

Measurements are collected by the nPerf mobile application, on Android only: Apple does not open the signal-strength APIs to developers. The application records the signal level reported by the handset every time the device's position is requested by the operating system or by another installed application — maps, navigation, games — and throughout the active mapping sessions users can start themselves. Each record is time-stamped and geolocated to within 20 metres. Anyone can join the panel simply by installing the nPerf app.

Which measurements are kept

- Each measurement is attributed to the network that actually serves the handset, identified by its MCC/MNC codes.
- Measurements reporting no signal at all are kept — the absence of coverage is a result in its own right.
- A country is published only when the volume of measurements and the share of its inhabited territory actually surveyed are sufficient.

Which ISPs are kept

- Only ISPs operating their own network are included; MVNOs are excluded.
- An ISP is published only when its share of measurements is sufficient to be reliably represented in this report.

2. Methodology (2/2) — From measurements to a coverage rate

A grid of parcels

The territory is divided into a regular grid. Each parcel is roughly 400 to 600 m on a side depending on latitude — about 425 m at the latitude of France. A parcel is taken into account for an operator as soon as one of that operator's users has recorded at least one measurement inside it, with or without signal.

Each operator is measured on its own customers' data

This is the cornerstone of the method: an operator's coverage rate is computed from **the measurements collected by its own subscribers, not from those of all operators combined**. The reference perimeter — the denominator of the rate — is therefore specific to each operator: it consists of the parcels its own customers actually visited. Every operator is assessed precisely where its own customer base lives, works and travels.

Technologies are nested

A parcel counts as covered by a technology as soon as at least one measurement of that technology — or of a higher generation — was recorded in it. **3G coverage** is therefore the area where at least 3G is available, **4G coverage** the area where at least 4G is available, and **5G coverage** the area where 5G is available.

Three indicators

- **Geographical Coverage** — the share of the operator's reference parcels in which the technology was recorded. Every parcel carries the same weight, whatever its population.
- **In mobility Pop. Coverage** — the same parcels, each weighted by the number of distinct nPerf devices observed in it. The weighting reflects where users actually are, rather than the number of inhabitants declared per municipality: busy roads and city centres therefore weigh more than sparsely travelled areas.
- **nPerf Coverage Score** — the average of the two indicators above, in equal parts. The higher the score, the better the coverage.

Regional results

Regional figures follow exactly the same method, restricted to the parcels located inside each region's official administrative boundaries.

Reading the 5G figures

All the frequency bands used by each operator are taken into account. Low bands (700 MHz) reach further than mid (2,100 MHz) and high (3,500 MHz) bands but deliver lower speeds: coverage figures should be read alongside the speed results of the nPerf mobile barometer.

3. Executive Summary 4G

The subscribers of KT enjoyed the best 4G coverage in 2026 in South Korea.

Mobile coverage rate in South Korea

	KT	SK Telecom	U+
Geographical Coverage Rate	98.77	96.33	97.33
Population Coverage Rate	99.01	97.87	98.33
nPerf Coverage Score	98.89	97.10	97.83

Source : nPerf.com

Best Mobile coverage in South Korea



Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Podium



Source : nPerf.com

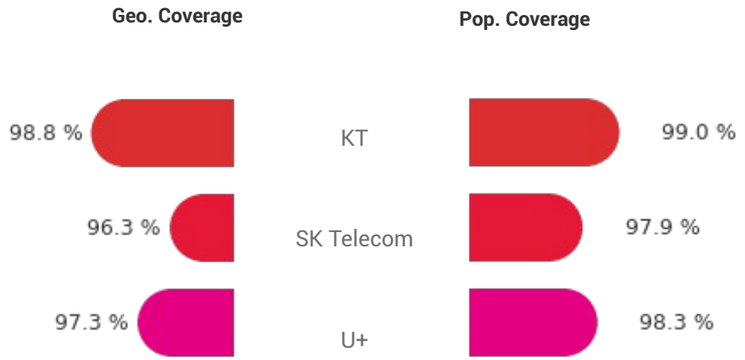
4. National 4G coverage maps

nPerf Coverage Score



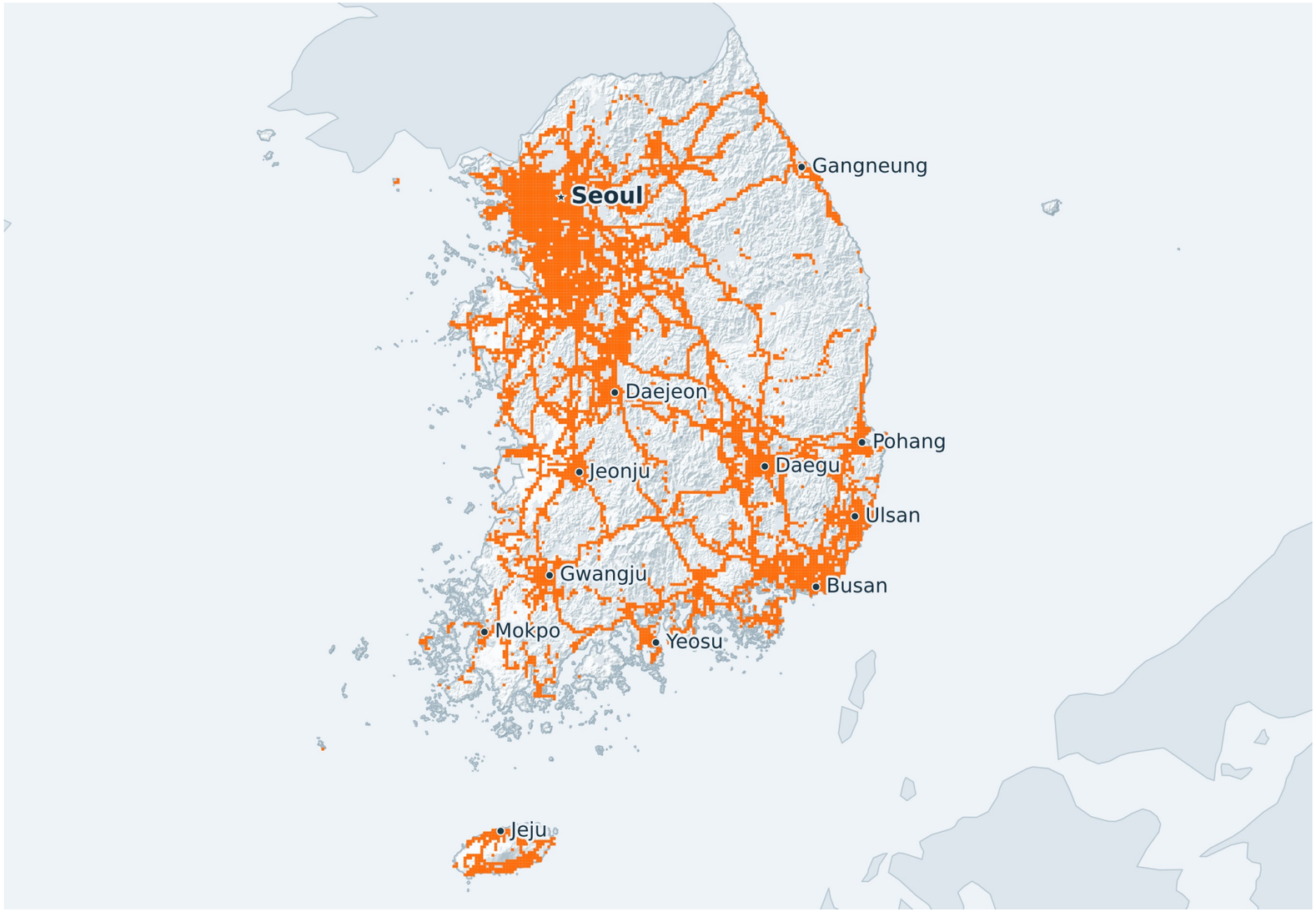
Source : nPerf.com

Coverage Indicators



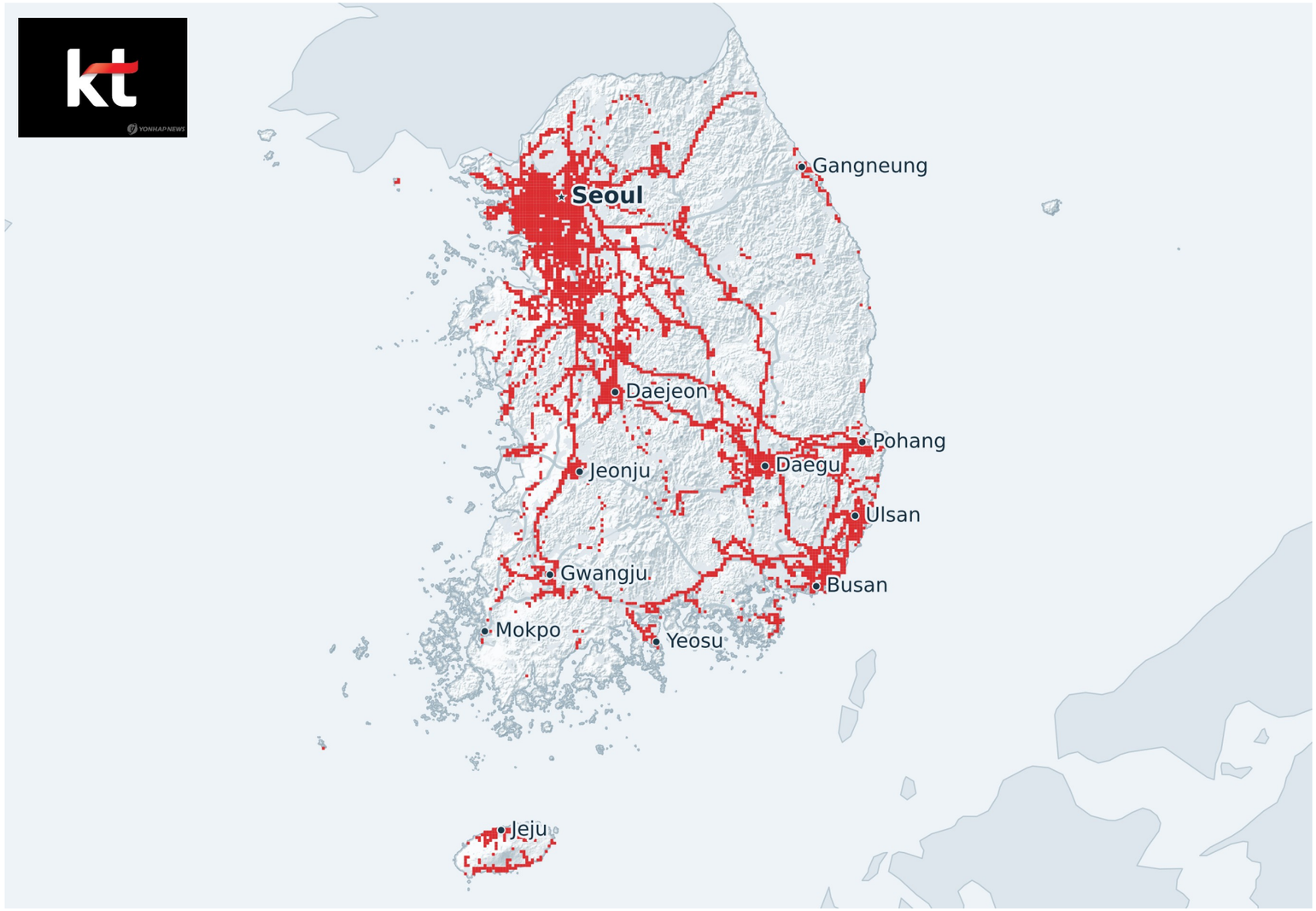
Source : nPerf.com

National Coverage



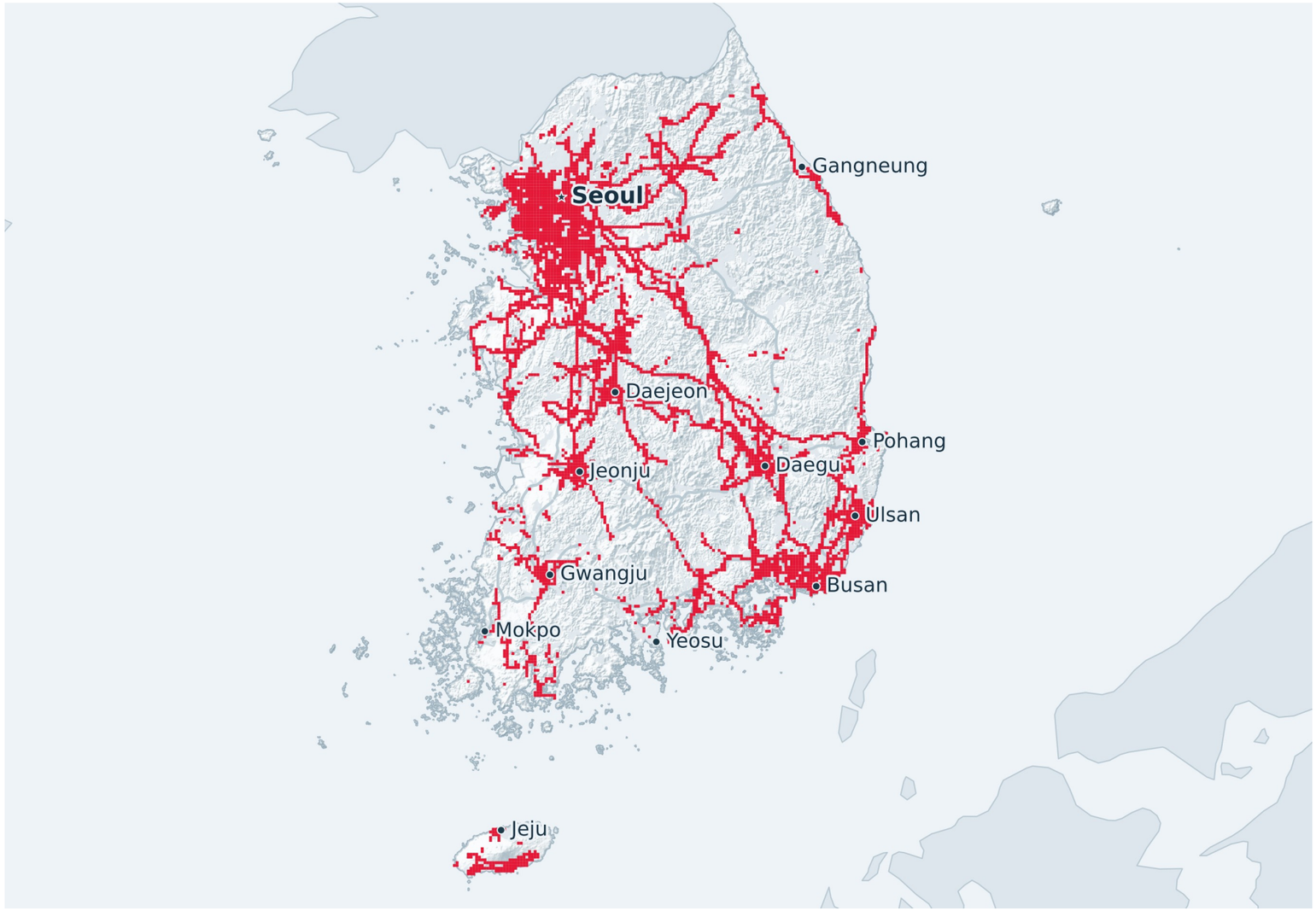
National 4G coverage maps for KT

	KT
Geographical Coverage Rate (%)	98.77
Population Coverage Rate (%)	99.01
nPerf Coverage Score (%)	98.89



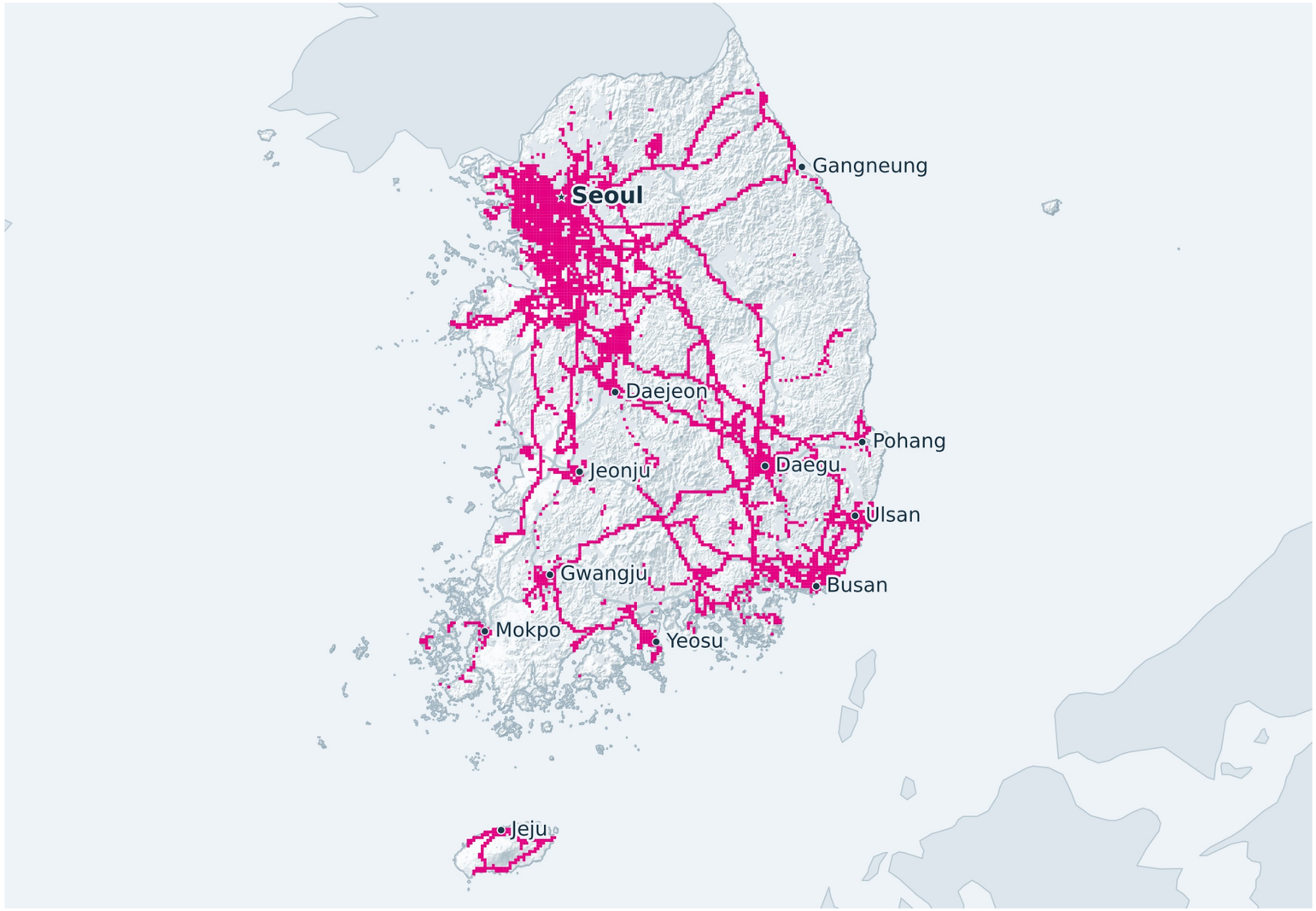
National 4G coverage maps for SK Telecom

	SK Telecom
Geographical Coverage Rate (%)	96.33
Population Coverage Rate (%)	97.87
nPerf Coverage Score (%)	97.10



National 4G coverage maps for U+

	U+
Geographical Coverage Rate (%)	97.33
Population Coverage Rate (%)	98.33
nPerf Coverage Score (%)	97.83



5. Executive Summary 5G

The subscribers of KT enjoyed the best 5G coverage in 2026 in South Korea.

Mobile coverage rate in South Korea

	KT	SK Telecom	U+
Geographical Coverage Rate	88.15	84.69	84.97
Population Coverage Rate	91.60	89.64	89.39
nPerf Coverage Score	89.88	87.16	87.18

Source : nPerf.com

Best Mobile coverage in South Korea



Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Podium



Source : nPerf.com

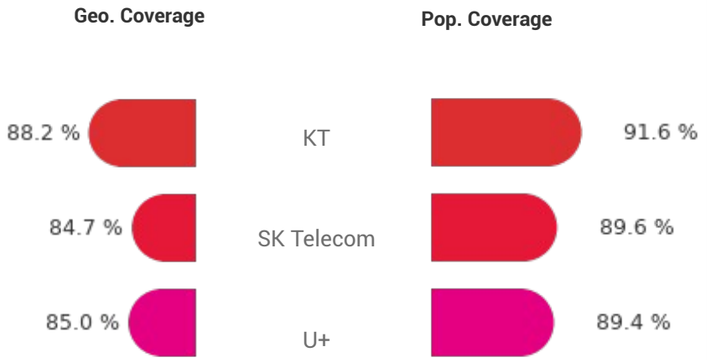
6. National 5G coverage maps

nPerf Coverage Score



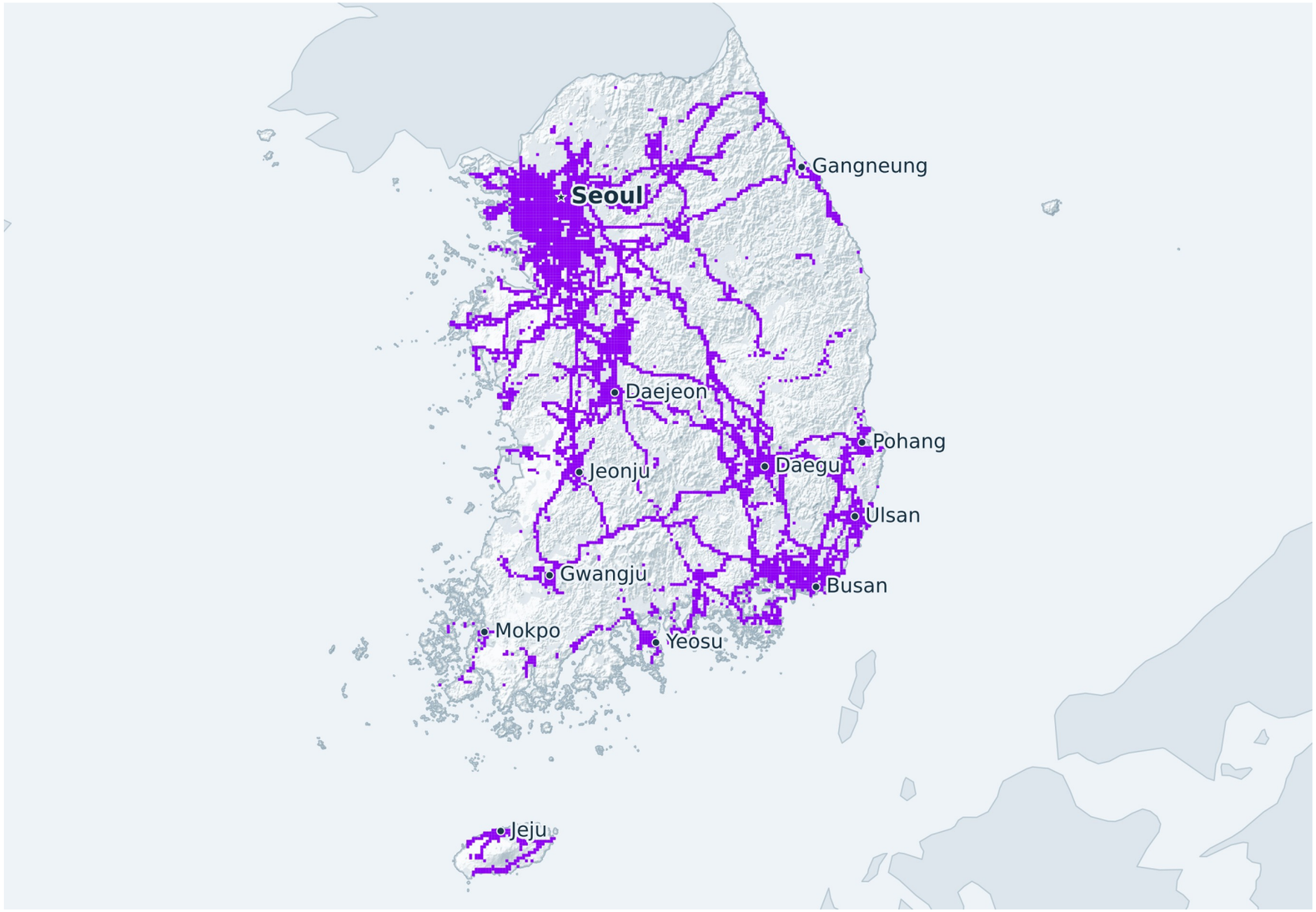
Source : nPerf.com

Coverage Indicators



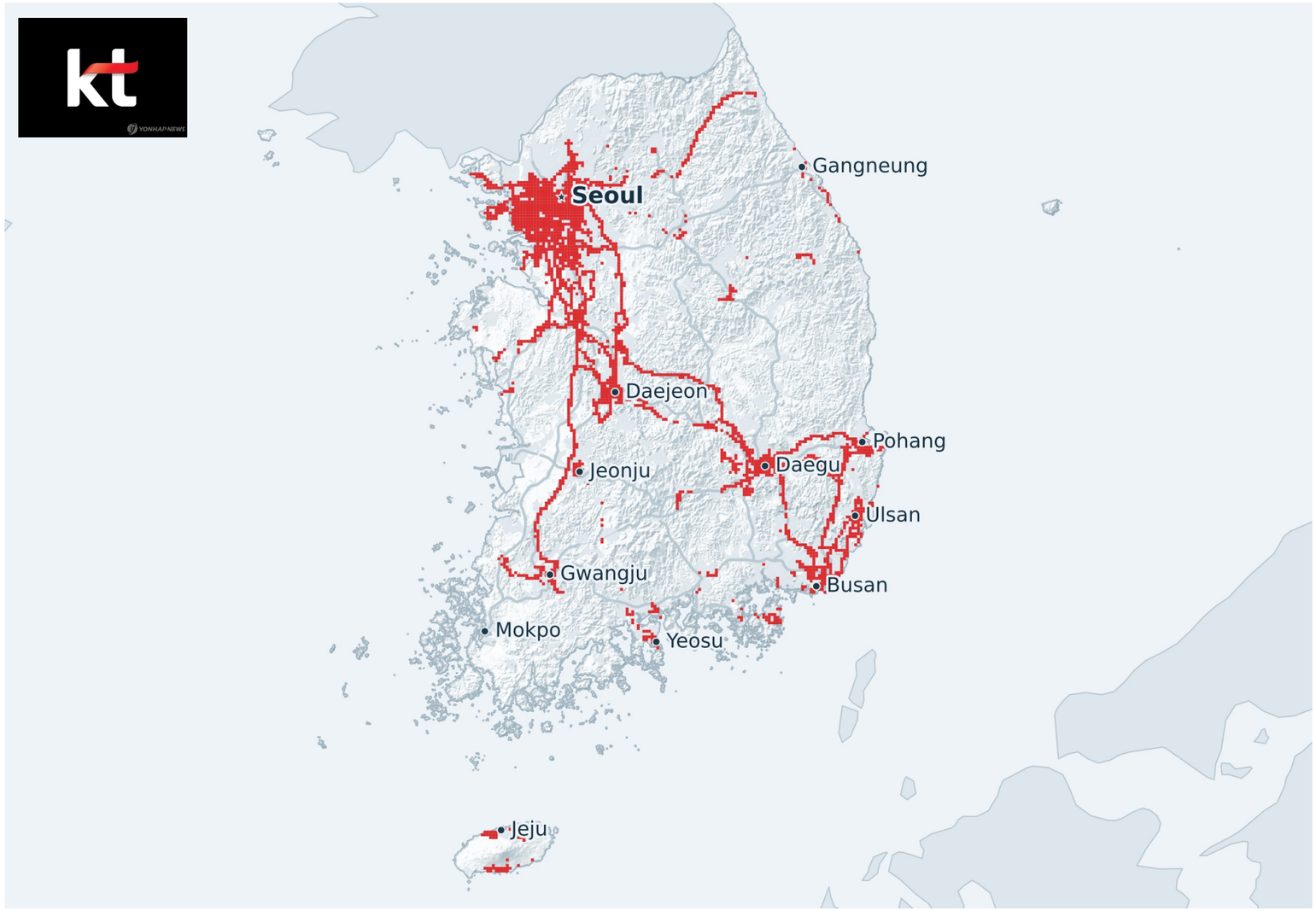
Source : nPerf.com

National Coverage



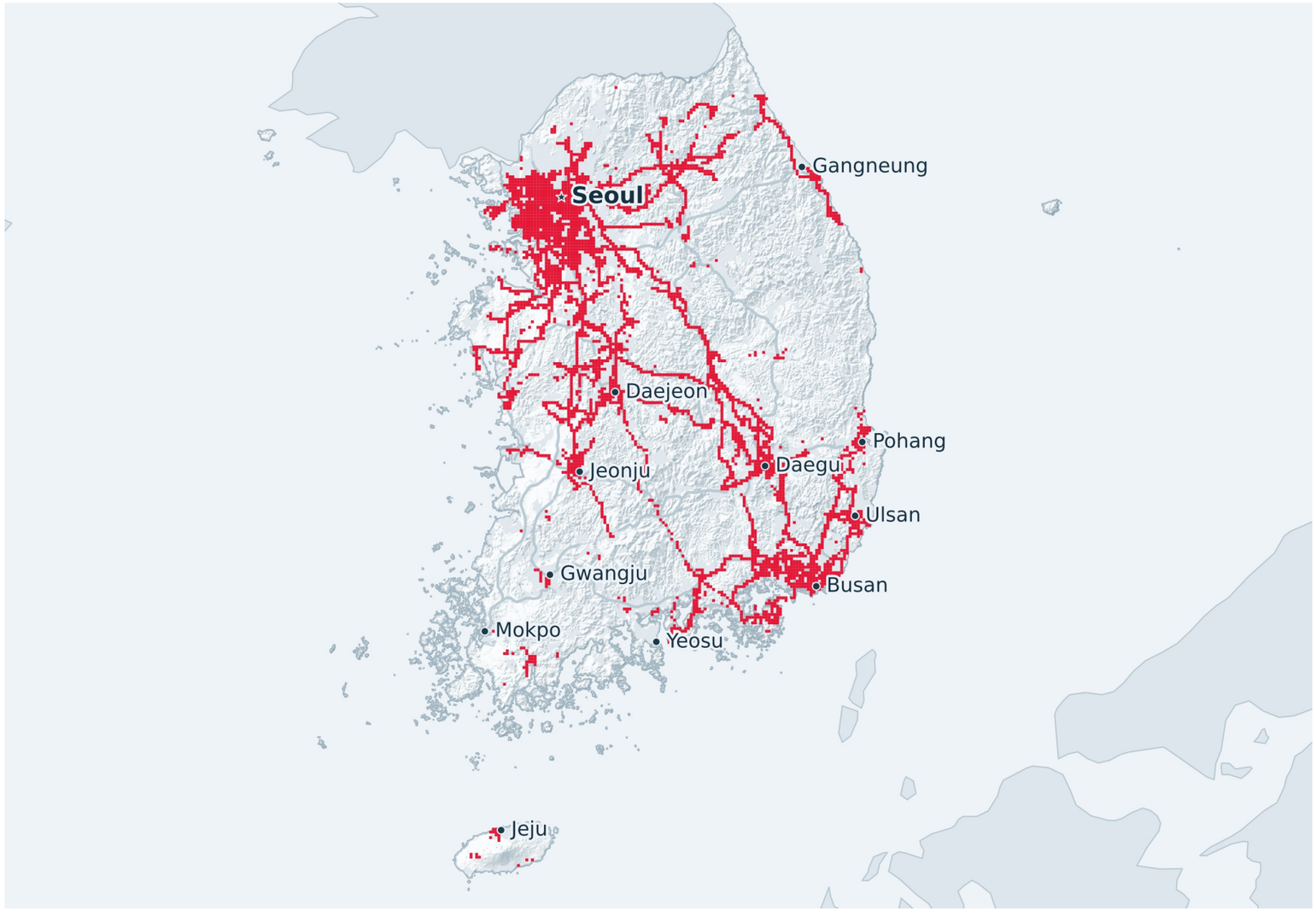
National 5G coverage maps for KT

	KT
Geographical Coverage Rate (%)	88.15
Population Coverage Rate (%)	91.60
nPerf Coverage Score (%)	89.88



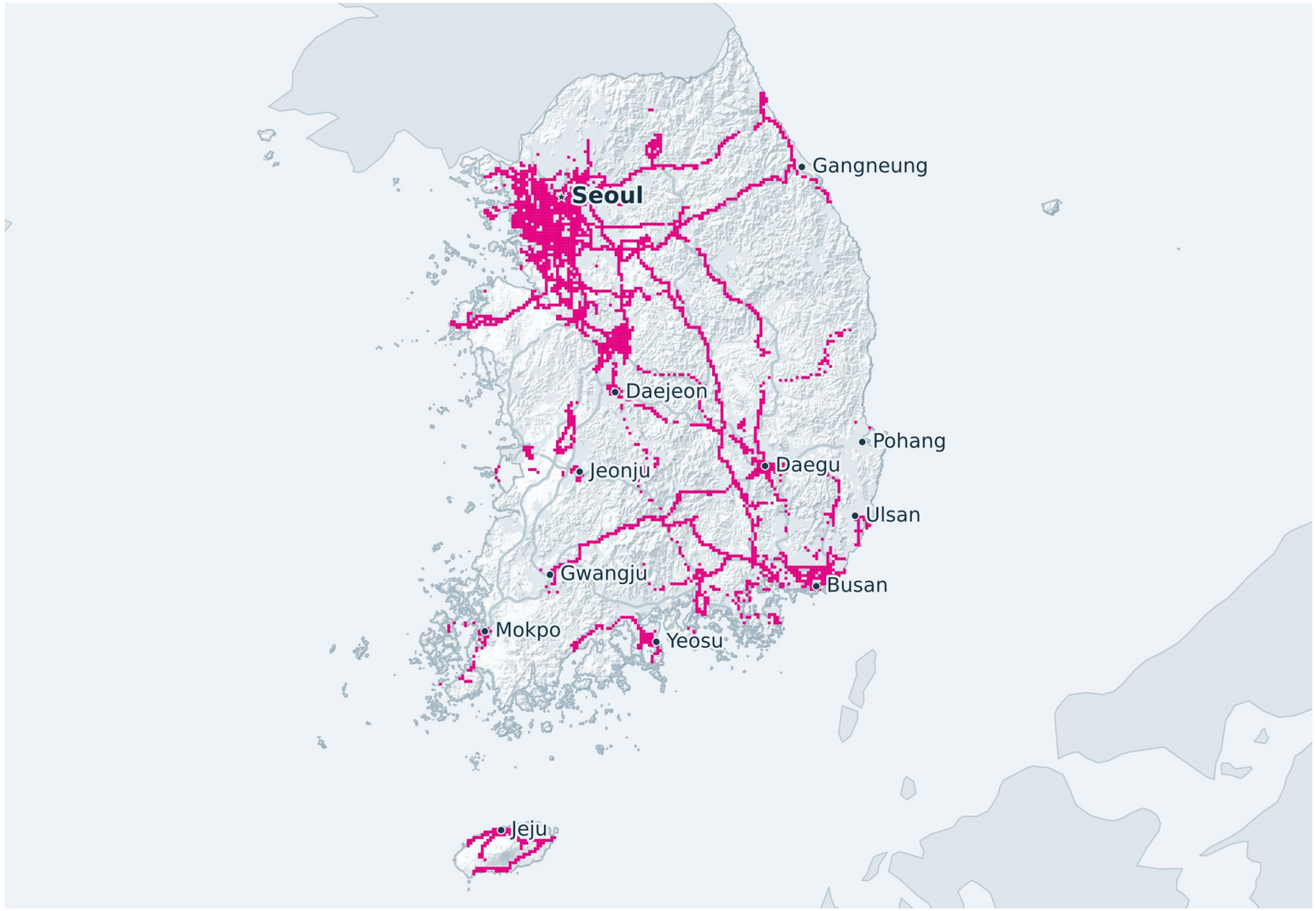
National 5G coverage maps for SK Telecom

	SK Telecom
Geographical Coverage Rate (%)	84.69
Population Coverage Rate (%)	89.64
nPerf Coverage Score (%)	87.16



National 5G coverage maps for U+

	U+
Geographical Coverage Rate (%)	84.97
Population Coverage Rate (%)	89.39
nPerf Coverage Score (%)	87.18



7. Regional 4G coverage: Methodology

Regions	Measurements	Device count	Measurements per operator
Gyeonggi-do	1 199 509	19 837	38% 29% 34%
Seoul	406 920	7 268	44% 34% 22%
Gyeongsangbuk-do	301 615	5 911	23% 58% 18%
Chungcheongbuk-do	255 484	4 051	22% 15% 63%
Gyeongsangnam-do	205 858	4 996	49% 19% 32%
Chungcheongnam-do	202 193	4 752	33% 30% 37%
Ulsan	193 157	1 951	44% 11% 45%
Incheon	139 149	3 336	32% 51% 17%
Daegu	113 123	2 271	27% 52% 21%
Busan	105 529	2 461	46% 32% 21%
Jeollabuk-do	103 076	1 768	20% 62% 18%
Gangwon-do	88 021	3 410	48% 20% 31%
Daejeon	64 902	1 176	76% 20%
Jeju	57 217	1 371	32% 43% 24%
Jeollanam-do	49 933	1 307	28% 13% 59%
Gwangju	19 377	621	70% 23%
Sejong	11 667	489	29% 28% 42%

KT
SK Telecom
U+

See regional details for region having more than 1000 devices count and ISPs with more than 20% share of test

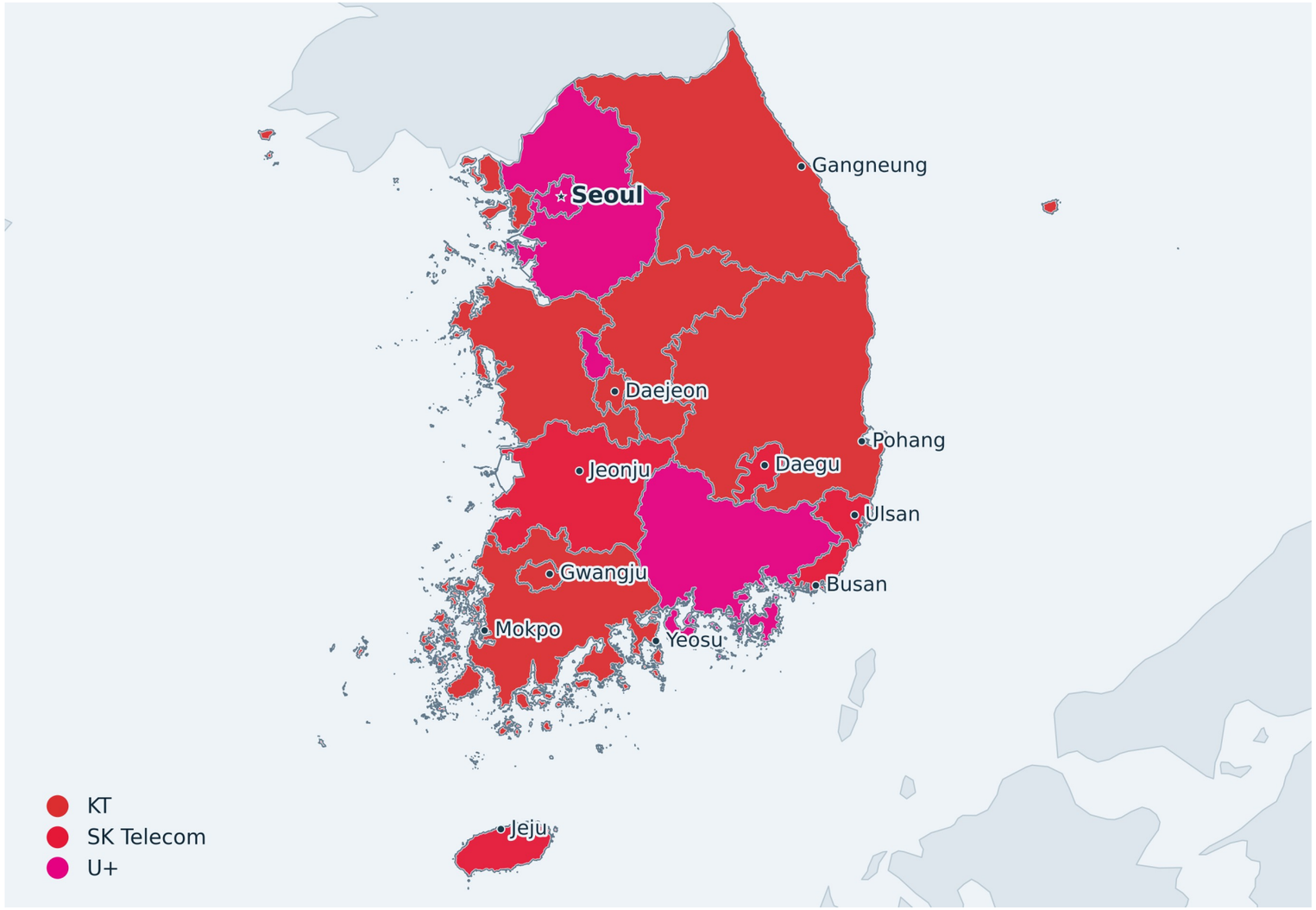
Regional 4G coverage

nPerf Coverage Score



Source : nPerf.com

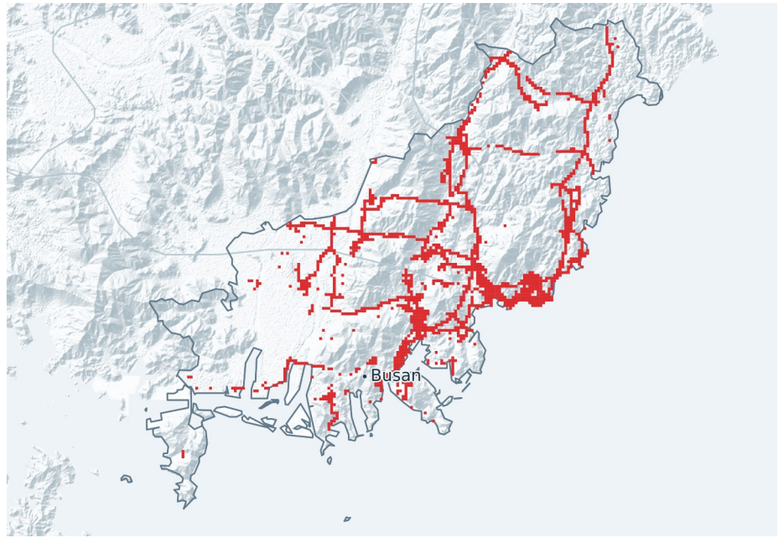
Regional Winner



Source : nPerf.com

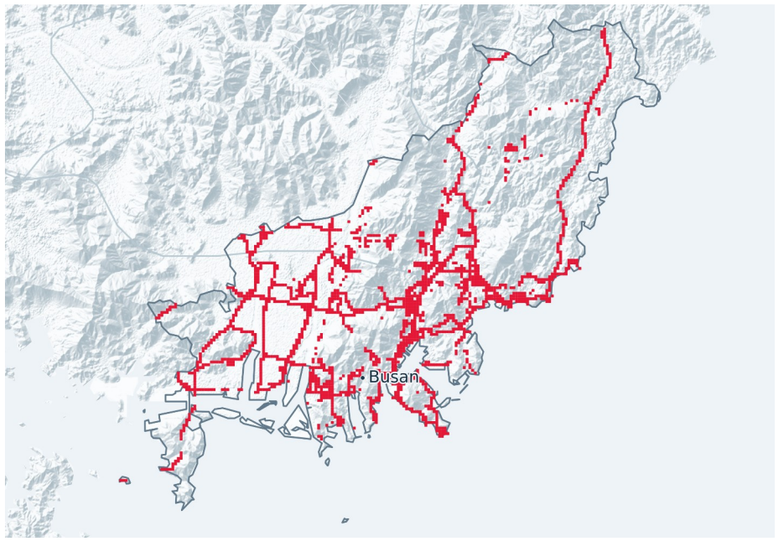
4G coverage — Busan

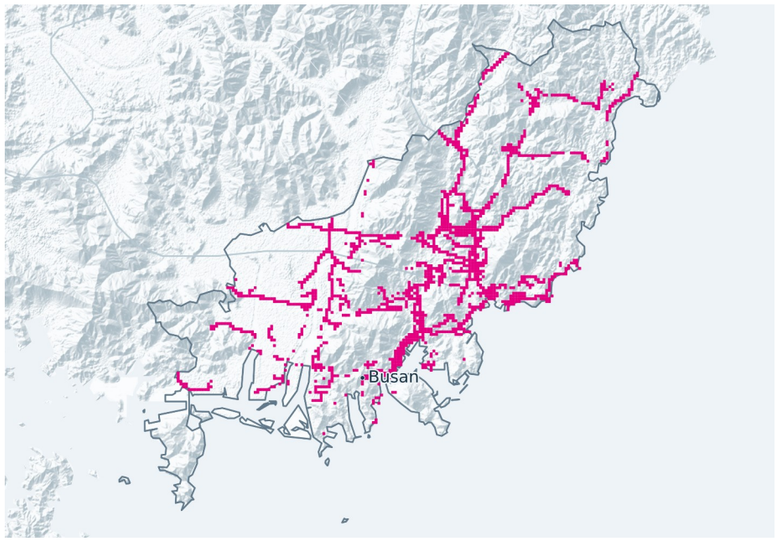
Geographical Coverage	98,74 %
In mobility Pop. Coverage	98,94 %
nPerf Coverage Score	**98,84 %**





Geographical Coverage	99,89 %
In mobility Pop. Coverage	99,95 %
nPerf Coverage Score	**99,92 %**





Geographical Coverage	93,83 %
In mobility Pop. Coverage	93,72 %
nPerf Coverage Score	**93,77 %**

4G coverage — Chungcheongbuk-do

Geographical Coverage

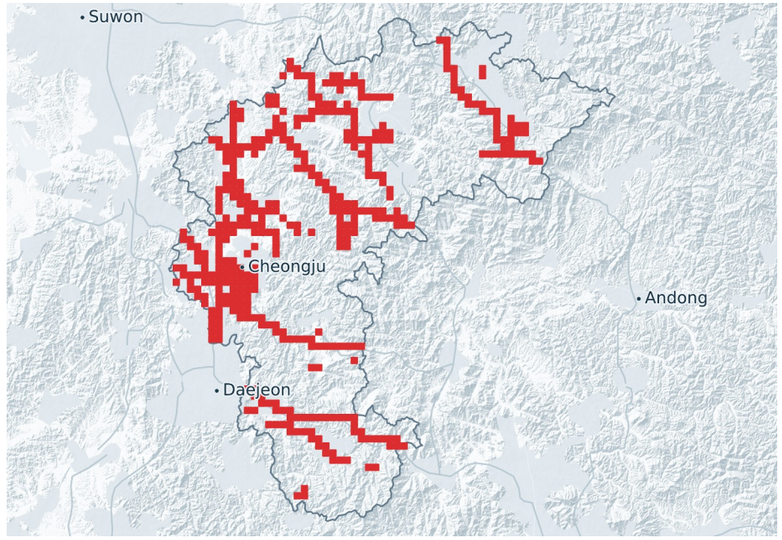
99,57 %

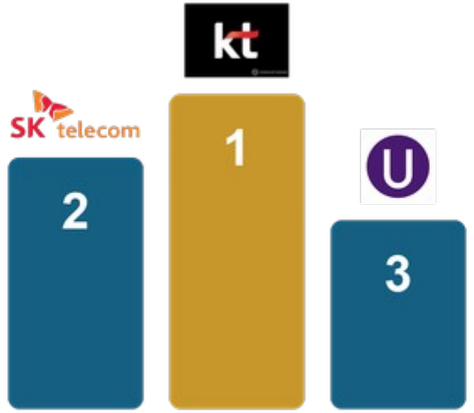
In mobility Pop. Coverage

99,66 %

nPerf Coverage Score

99,62 %





Geographical Coverage

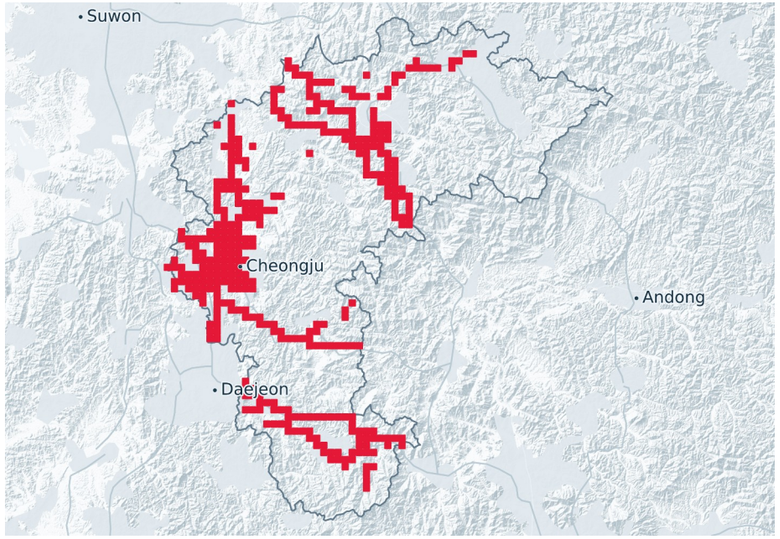
97,27 %

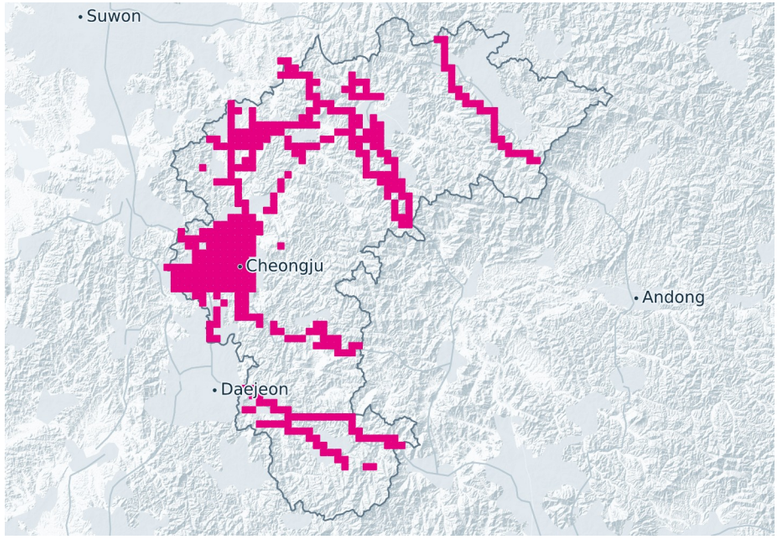
In mobility Pop. Coverage

98,71 %

nPerf Coverage Score

97,99 %





Geographical Coverage

95,06 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

97,69 %

nPerf Coverage Score

96,38 %

4G coverage — Chungcheongnam-do

kt

Geographical Coverage

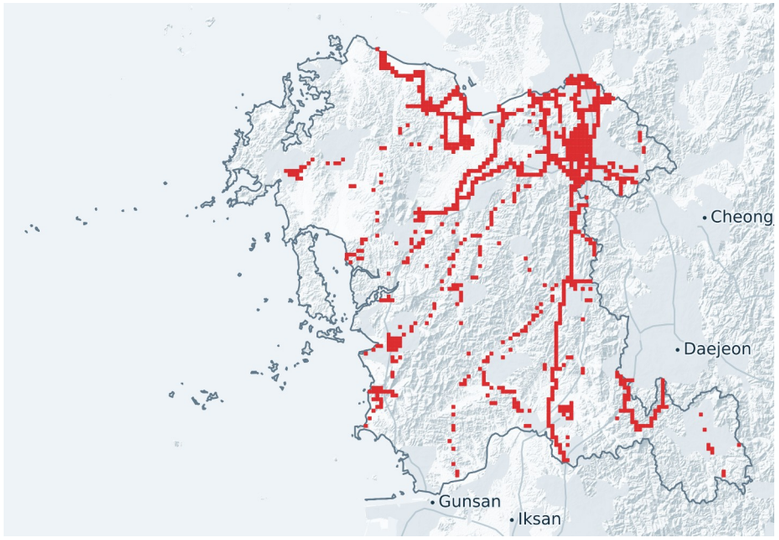
99,84 %

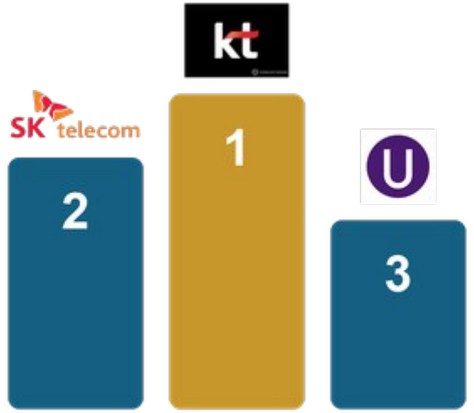
In mobility Pop. Coverage

99,93 %

nPerf Coverage Score

99,88 %





Geographical Coverage

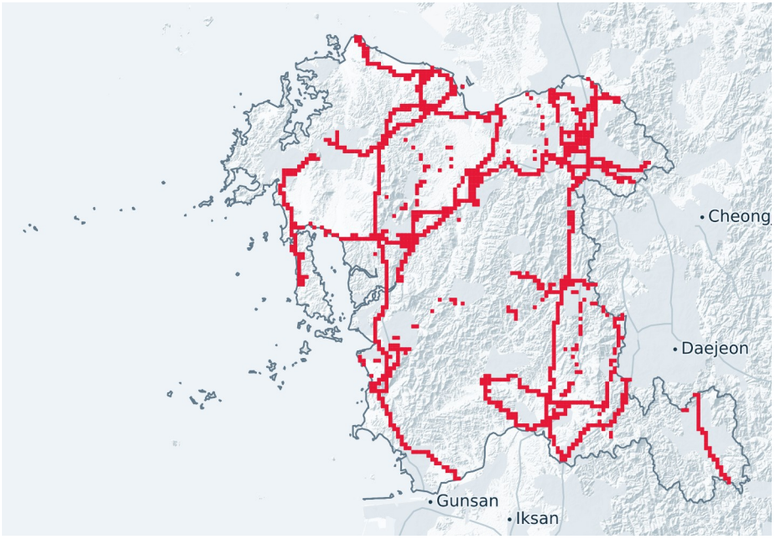
94,97 %

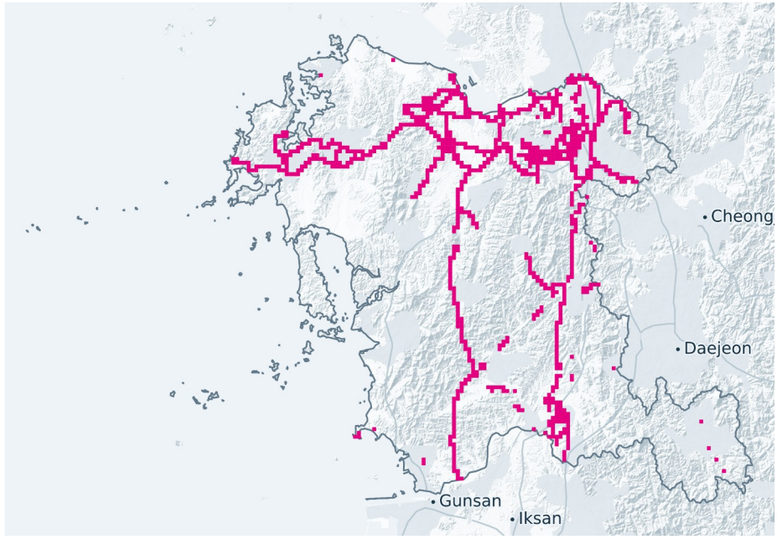
In mobility Pop. Coverage

95,68 %

nPerf Coverage Score

95,33 %





Geographical Coverage

93,01 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

94,15 %

nPerf Coverage Score

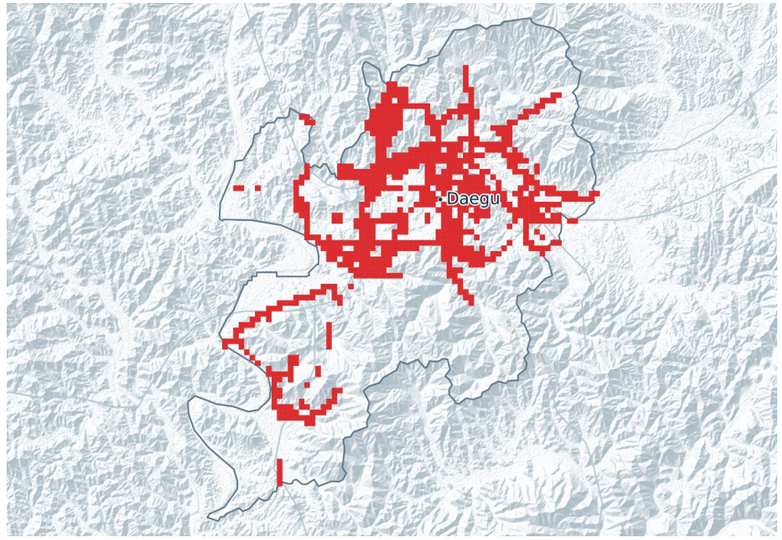
93,58 %

4G coverage — Daegu

Geographical Coverage
97,05 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
98,23 %

nPerf Coverage Score
97,64 %

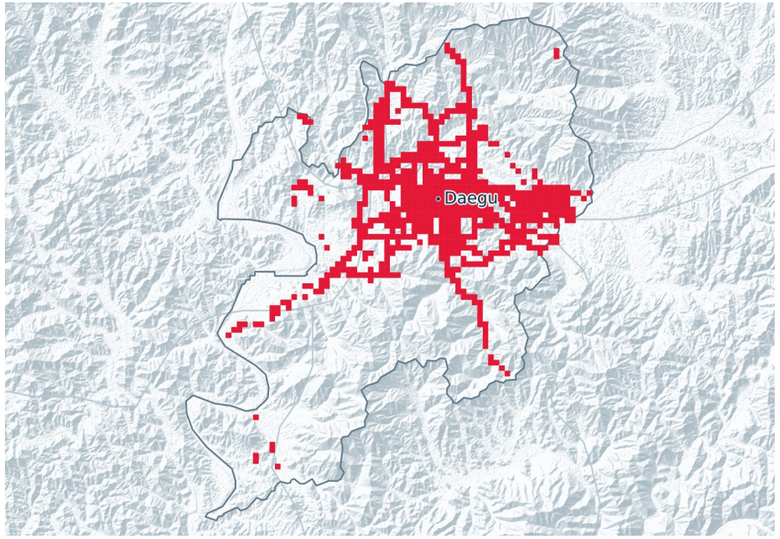


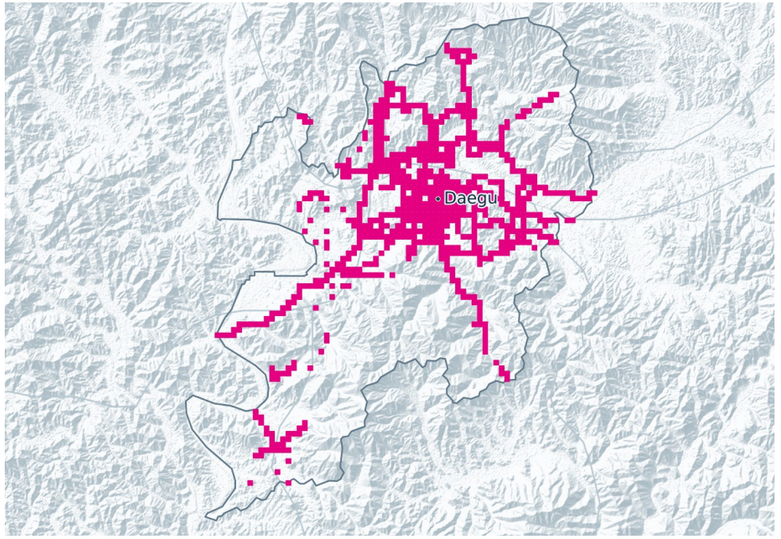


Geographical Coverage
99,86 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
99,95 %

nPerf Coverage Score
99,90 %





Geographical Coverage
98,91 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
99,08 %

nPerf Coverage Score
98,99 %

4G coverage — Daejeon

Geographical Coverage

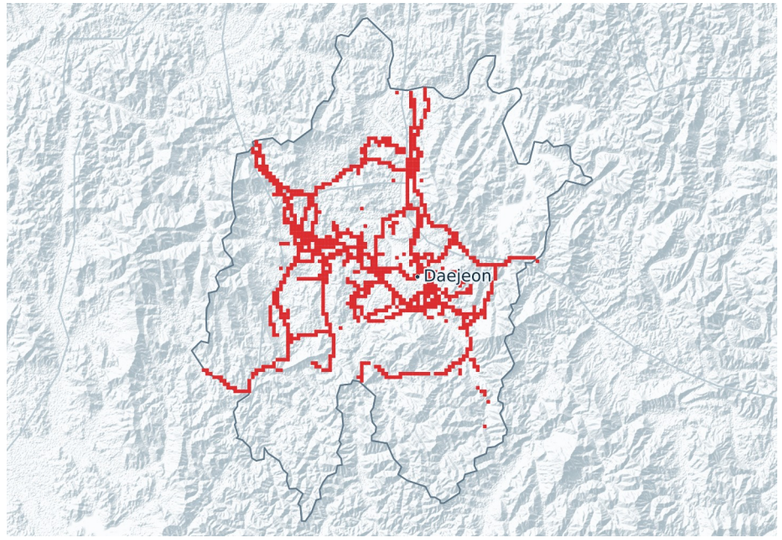
100,00 %

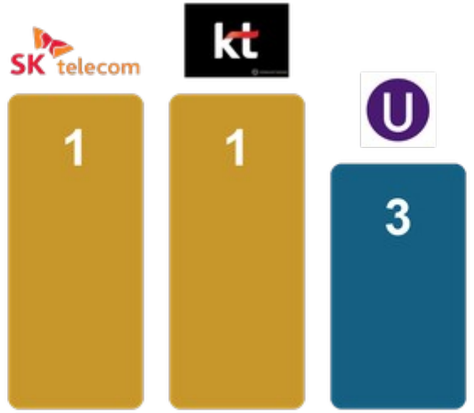
In mobility Pop. Coverage

100,00 %

nPerf Coverage Score

100,00 %





Geographical Coverage

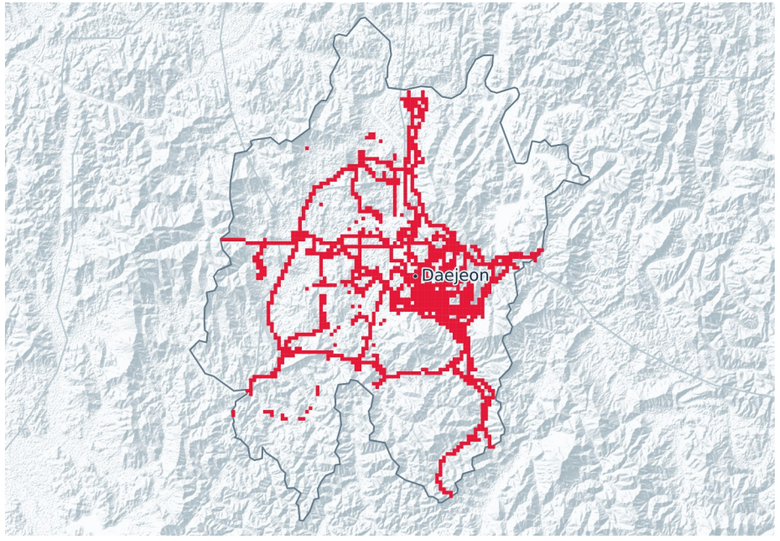
100,00 %

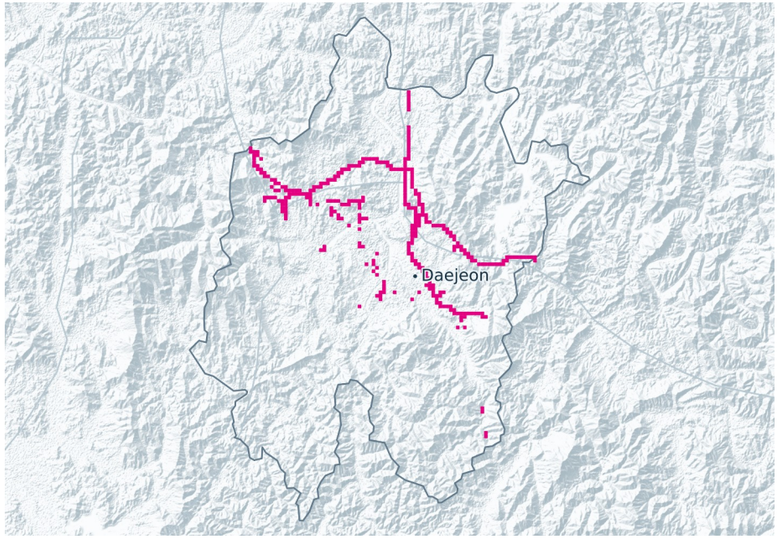
In mobility Pop. Coverage

100,00 %

nPerf Coverage Score

100,00 %





Geographical Coverage

99,43 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

99,62 %

nPerf Coverage Score

99,52 %

4G coverage — Gangwon-do

Geographical Coverage

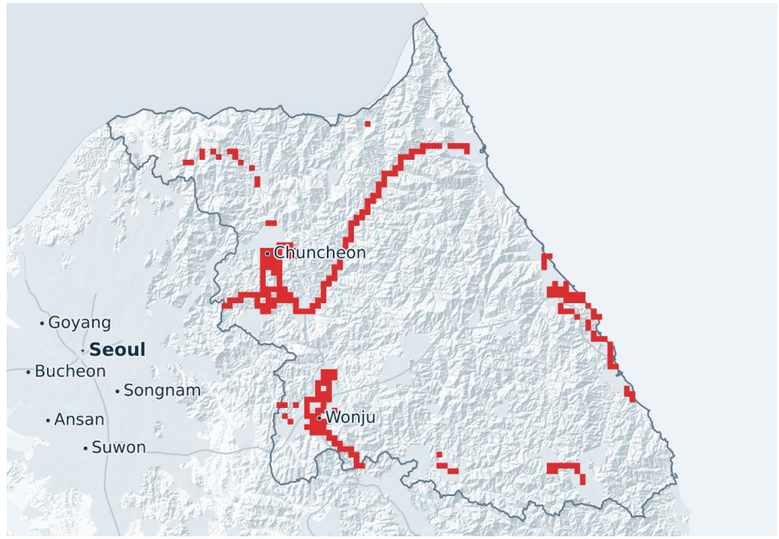
100,00 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

100,00 %

nPerf Coverage Score

100,00 %





Geographical Coverage

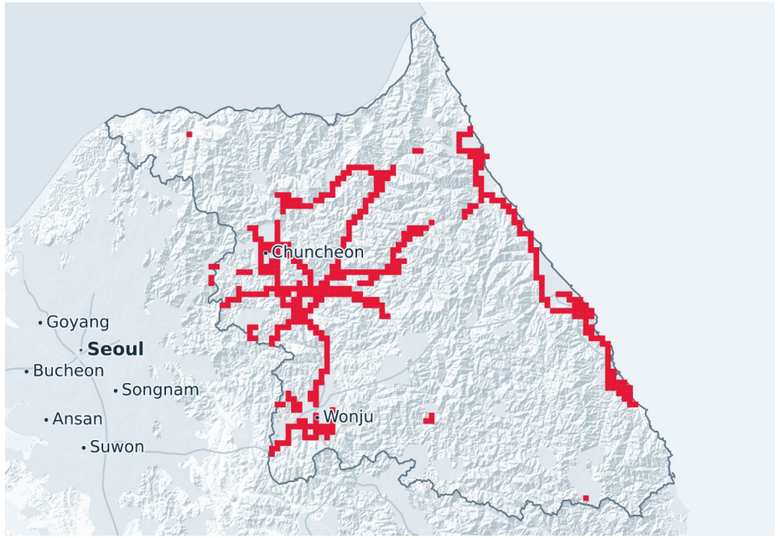
97,44 %

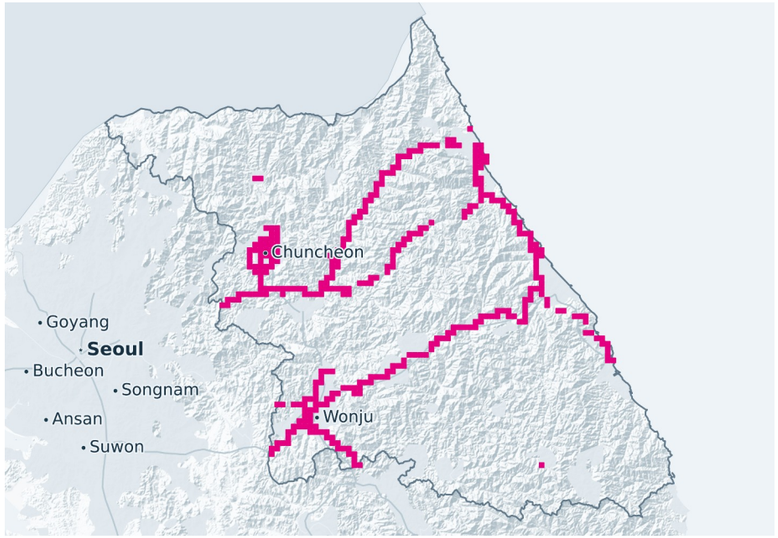
In mobility Pop. Coverage

98,32 %

nPerf Coverage Score

97,88 %





Geographical Coverage

100,00 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

100,00 %

nPerf Coverage Score

100,00 %

4G coverage — Gyeonggi-do

Geographical Coverage

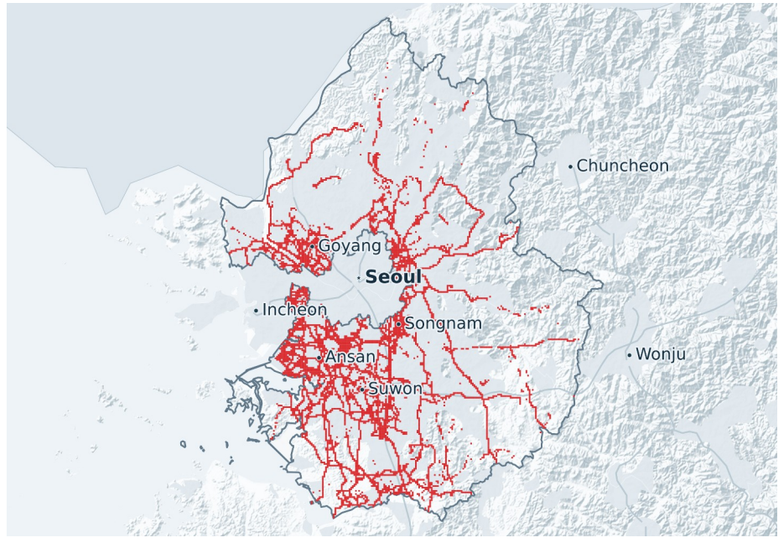
99,07 %

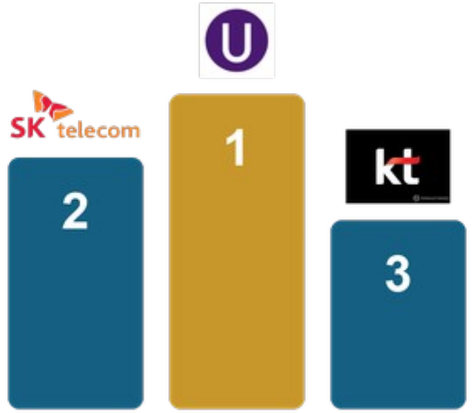
In mobility Pop. Coverage

99,04 %

nPerf Coverage Score

99,06 %





Geographical Coverage

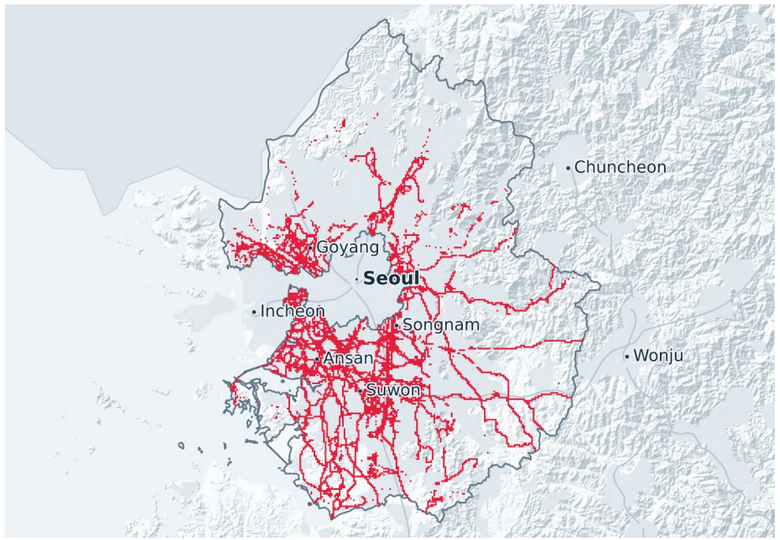
99,26 %

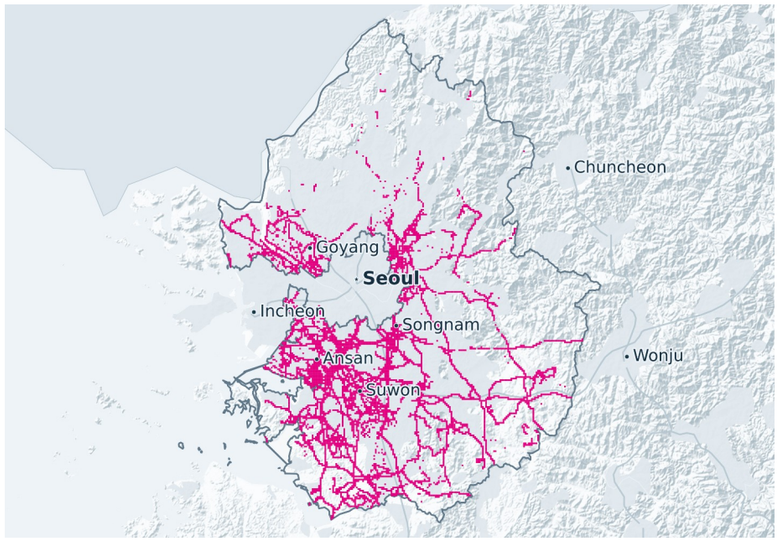
In mobility Pop. Coverage

99,78 %

nPerf Coverage Score

99,52 %





Geographical Coverage

99,66 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

99,67 %

nPerf Coverage Score

99,67 %

4G coverage — Gyeongsangbuk-do

Geographical Coverage

98,36 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

98,69 %

nPerf Coverage Score

98,53 %





Geographical Coverage

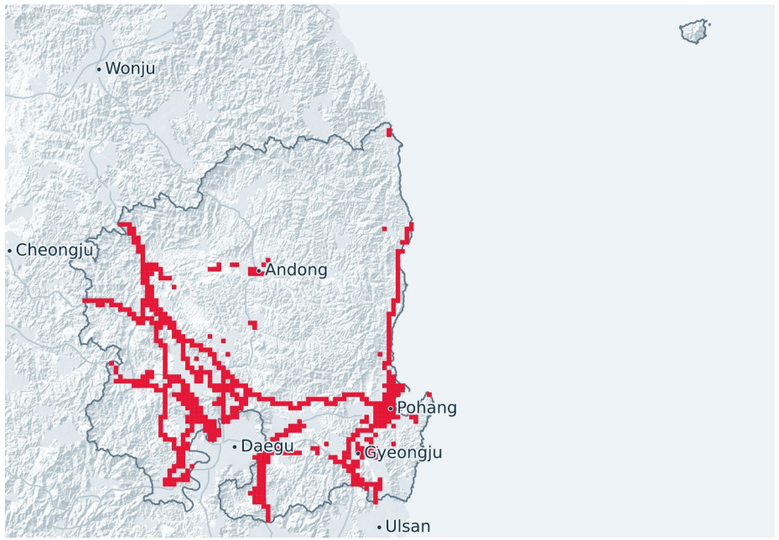
82,07 %

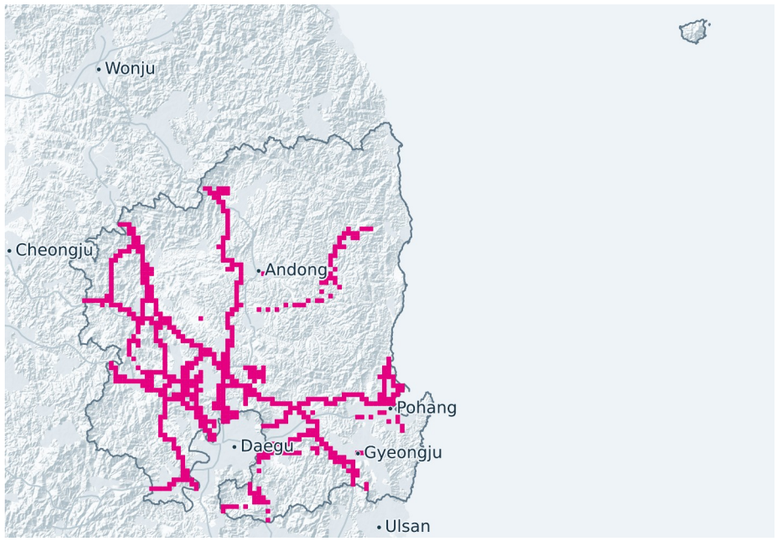
In mobility Pop. Coverage

86,92 %

nPerf Coverage Score

84,50 %





Geographical Coverage

97,77 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

98,97 %

nPerf Coverage Score

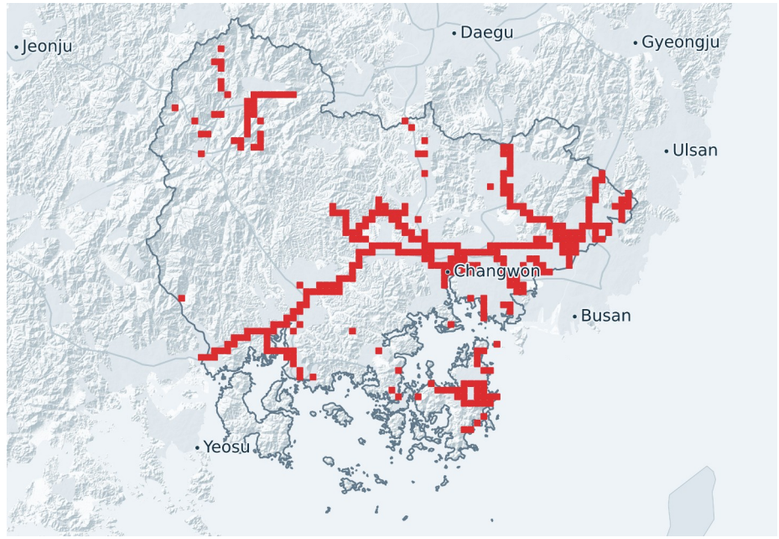
98,37 %

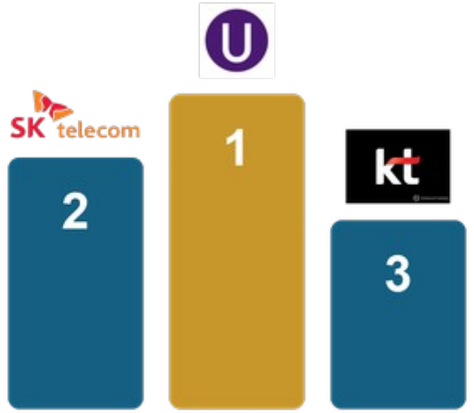
4G coverage — Gyeongsangnam-do

Geographical Coverage
98,33 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
99,02 %

nPerf Coverage Score
98,67 %

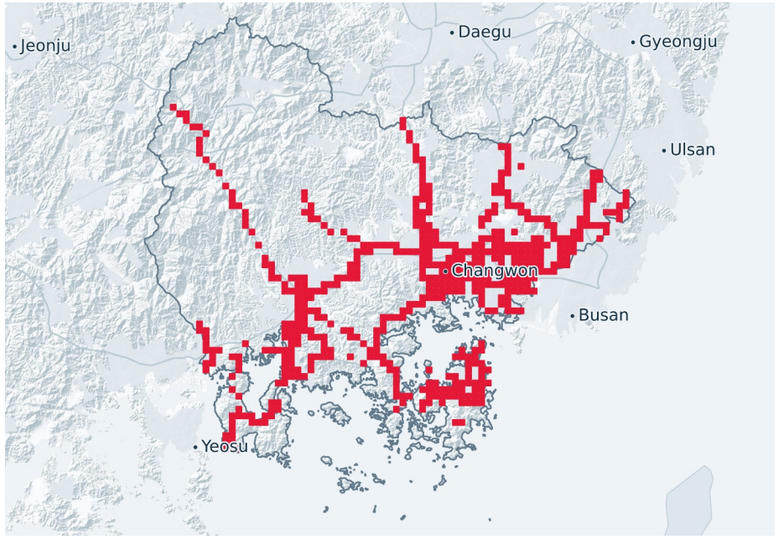


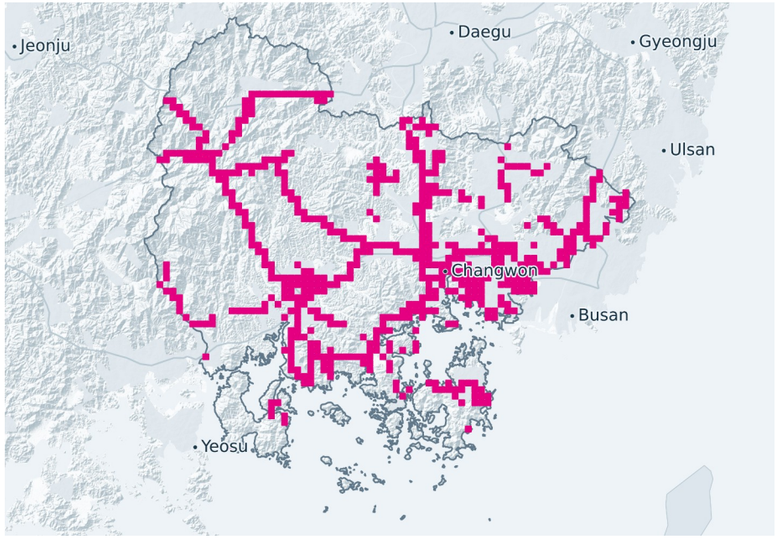


Geographical Coverage
98,80 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
99,36 %

nPerf Coverage Score
99,08 %





Geographical Coverage
99,64 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
99,72 %

nPerf Coverage Score
99,68 %

4G coverage — Incheon

kt

Geographical Coverage

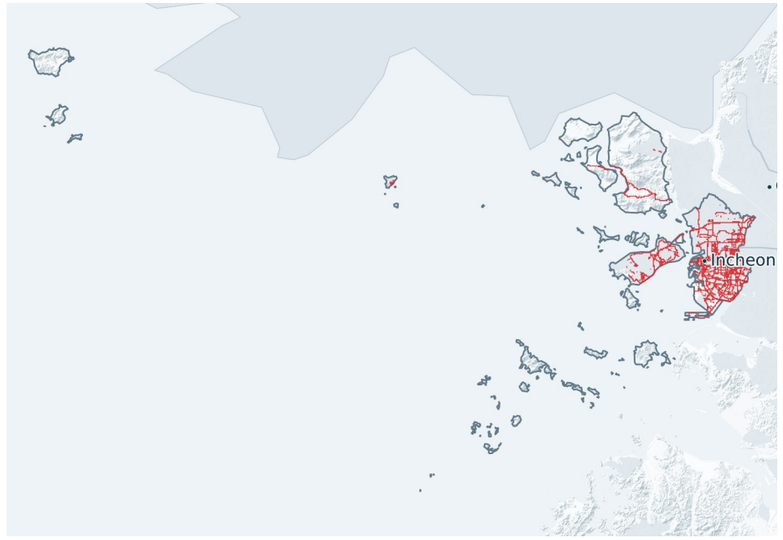
98,86 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

99,71 %

nPerf Coverage Score

99,28 %





Geographical Coverage

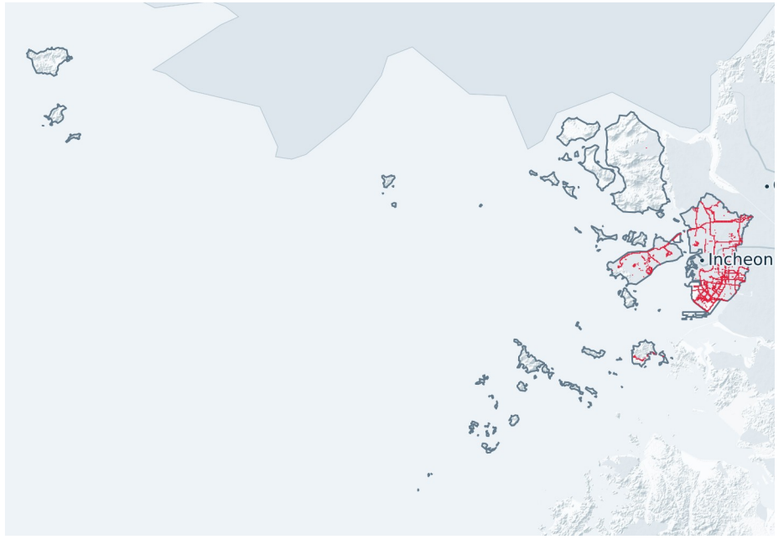
96,76 %

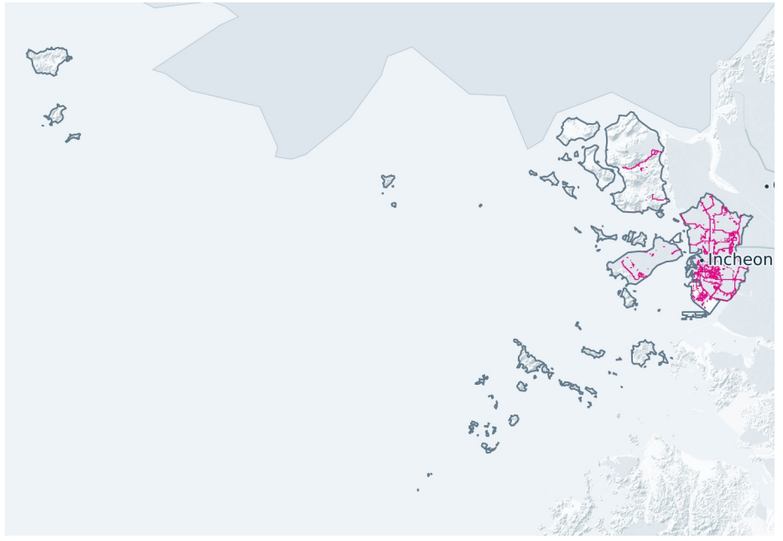
In mobility Pop. Coverage

98,42 %

nPerf Coverage Score

97,59 %





Geographical Coverage

99,13 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

99,29 %

nPerf Coverage Score

99,21 %

4G coverage — Jeju

Geographical Coverage

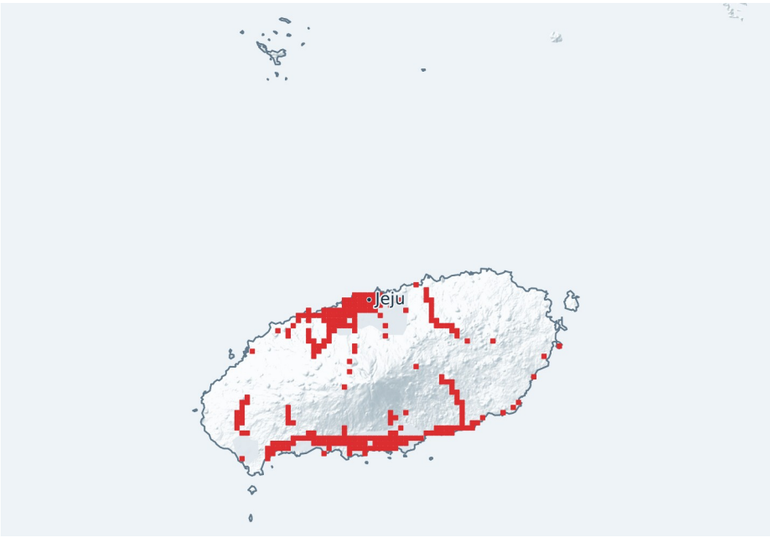
99,06 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

99,25 %

nPerf Coverage Score

99,16 %





Geographical Coverage

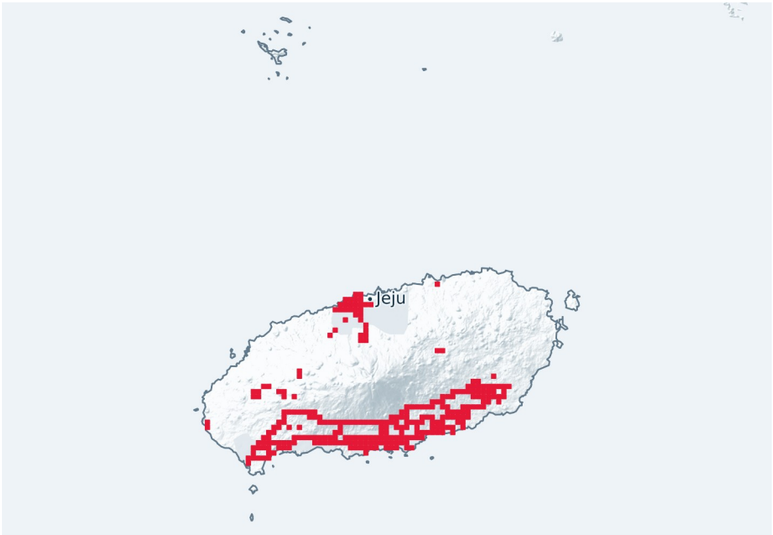
100,00 %

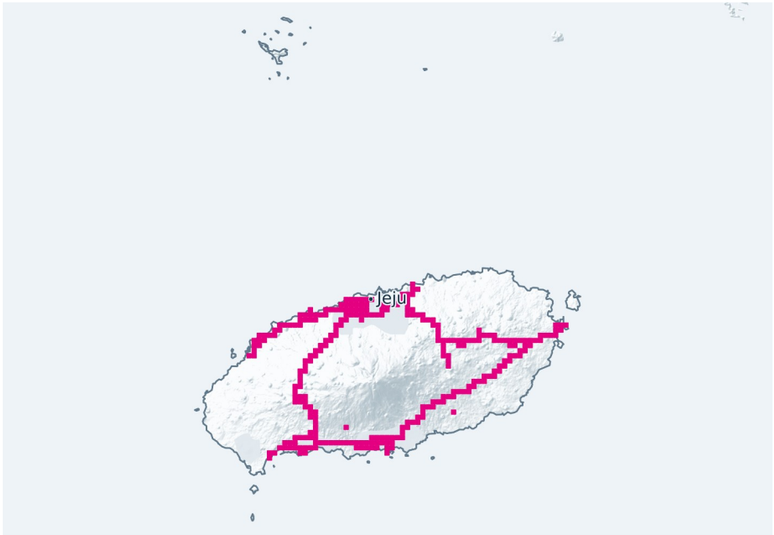
In mobility Pop. Coverage

100,00 %

nPerf Coverage Score

100,00 %





Geographical Coverage

100,00 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

100,00 %

nPerf Coverage Score

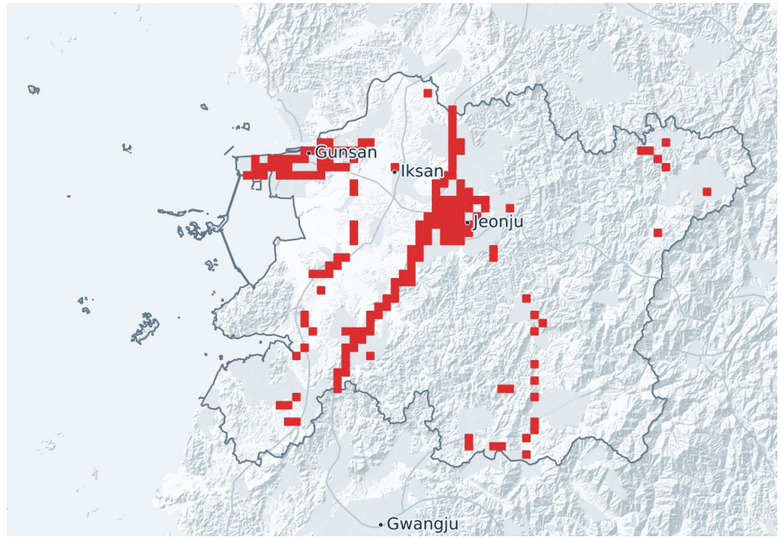
100,00 %

4G coverage — Jeollabuk-do

Geographical Coverage
98,28 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
99,07 %

nPerf Coverage Score
98,67 %

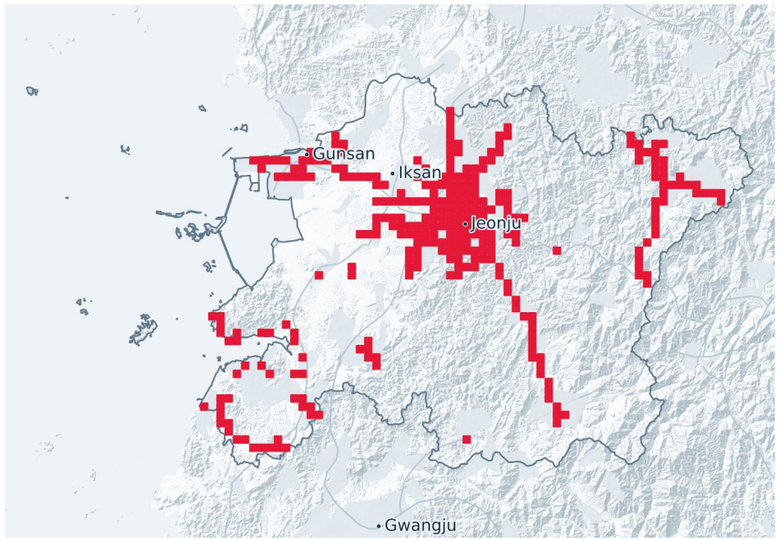


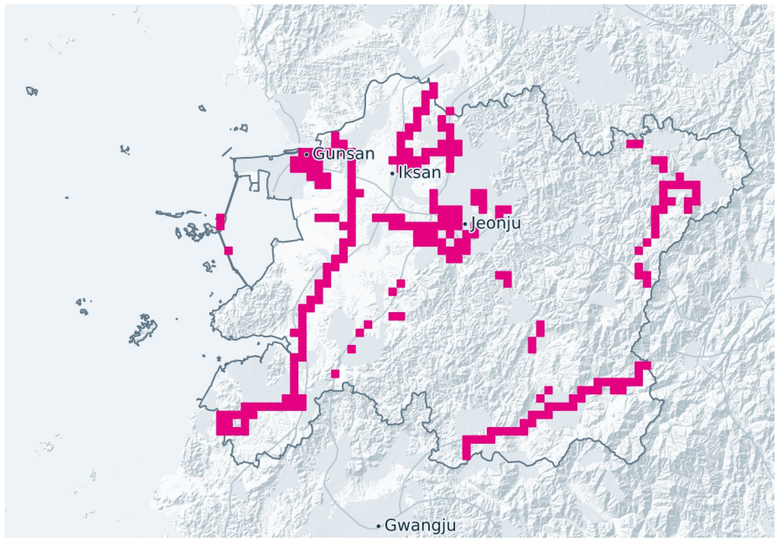


Geographical Coverage
100,00 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
100,00 %

nPerf Coverage Score
100,00 %





Geographical Coverage
86,51 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
80,96 %

nPerf Coverage Score
83,74 %

4G coverage — Jeollanam-do

Geographical Coverage

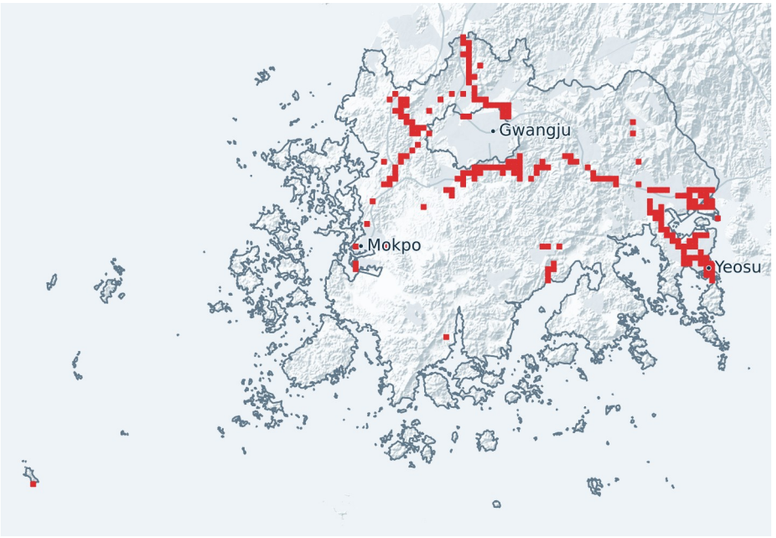
99,82 %

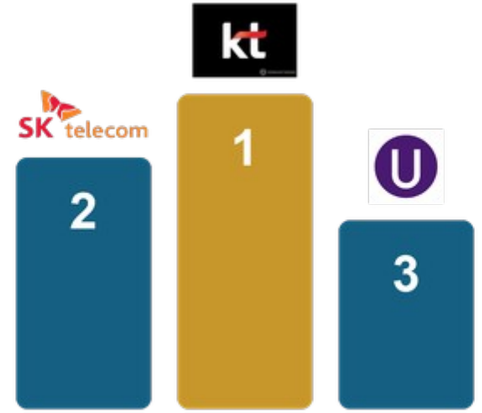
In mobility Pop. Coverage

99,89 %

nPerf Coverage Score

99,85 %





Geographical Coverage

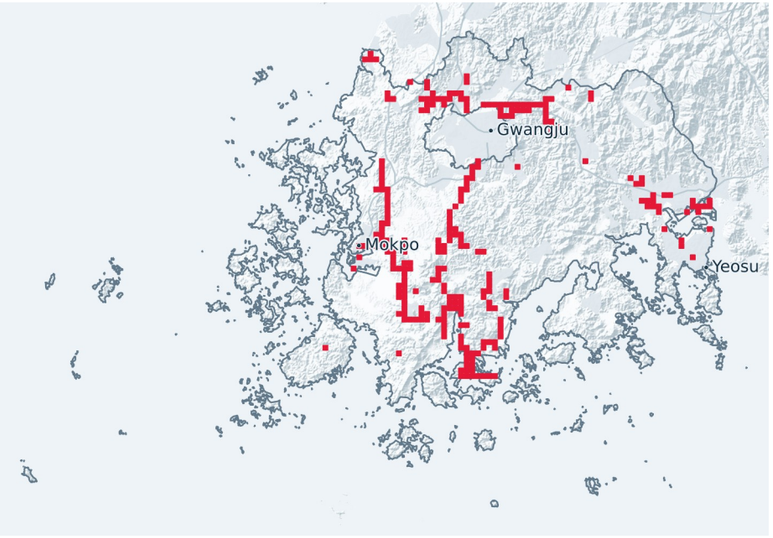
99,62 %

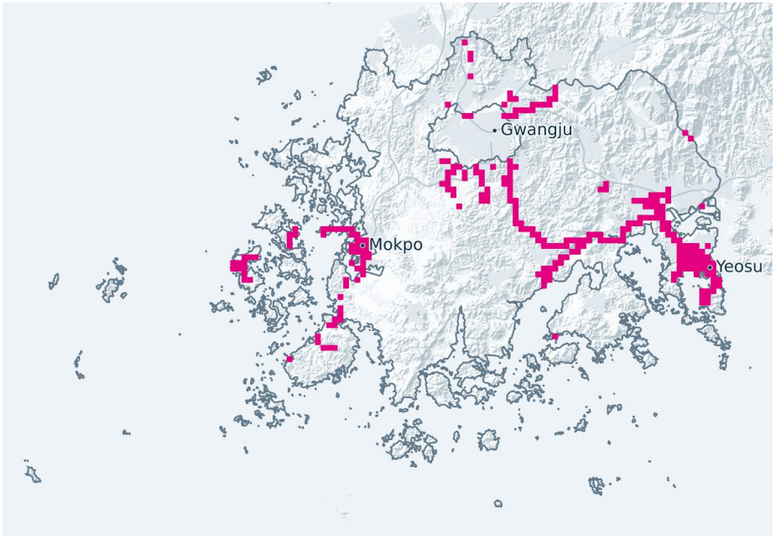
In mobility Pop. Coverage

99,46 %

nPerf Coverage Score

99,54 %





Geographical Coverage

93,07 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

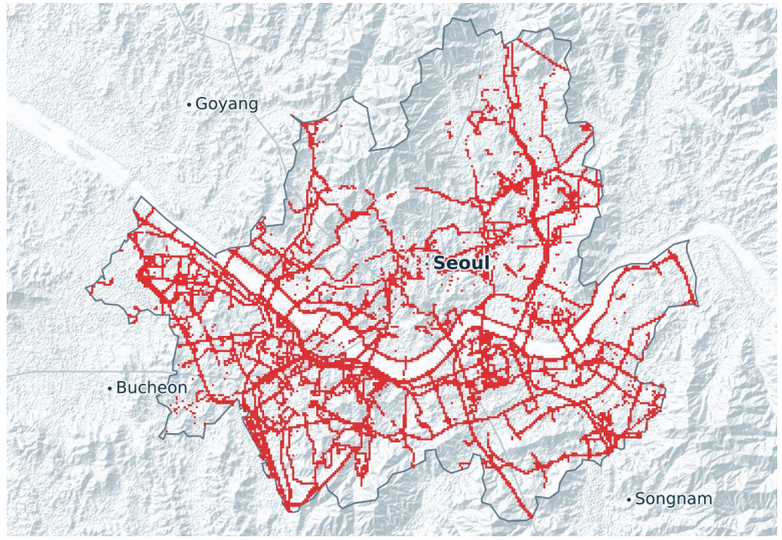
91,82 %

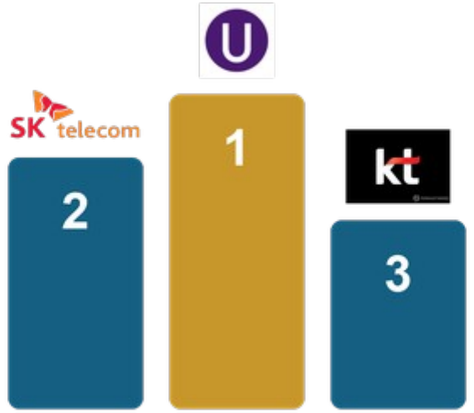
nPerf Coverage Score

92,45 %

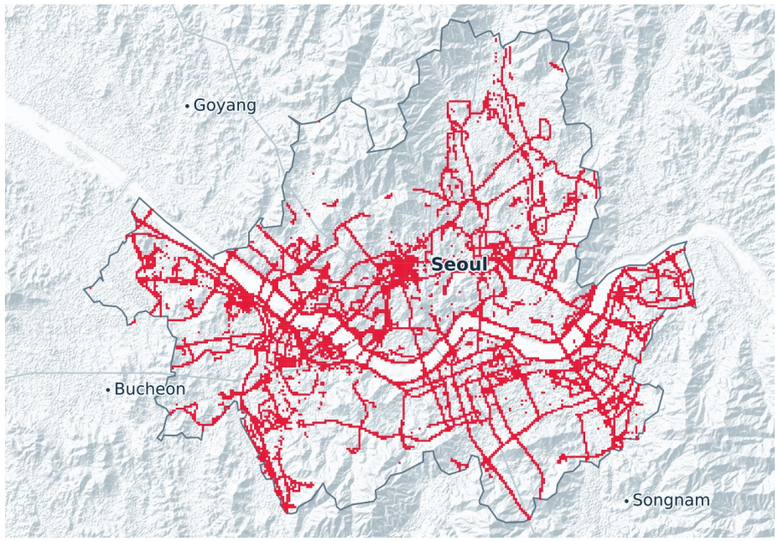
4G coverage — Seoul

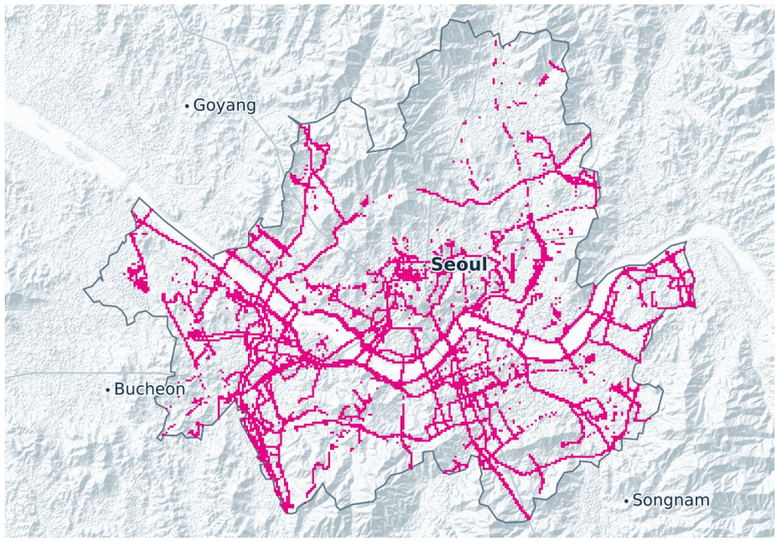
Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
99,45 %	99,72 %	**99,59 %**





Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
99,49 %	99,80 %	**99,64 %**



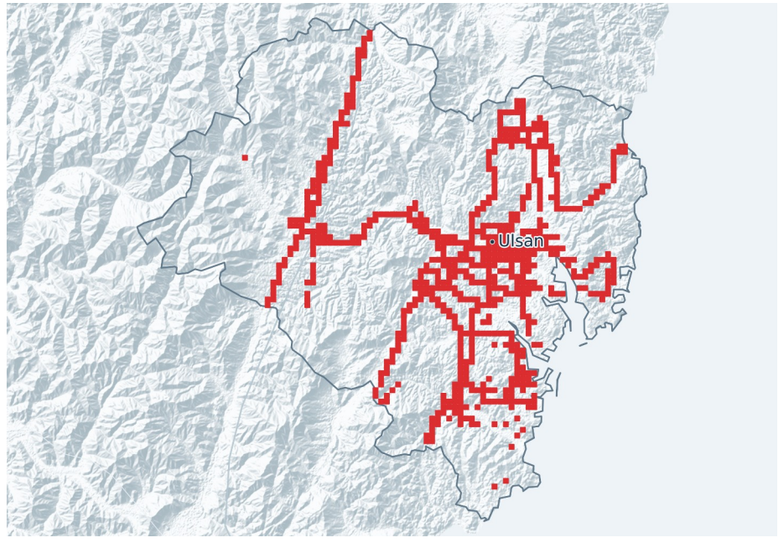


Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
99,93 %	99,98 %	**99,95 %**

4G coverage — Ulsan

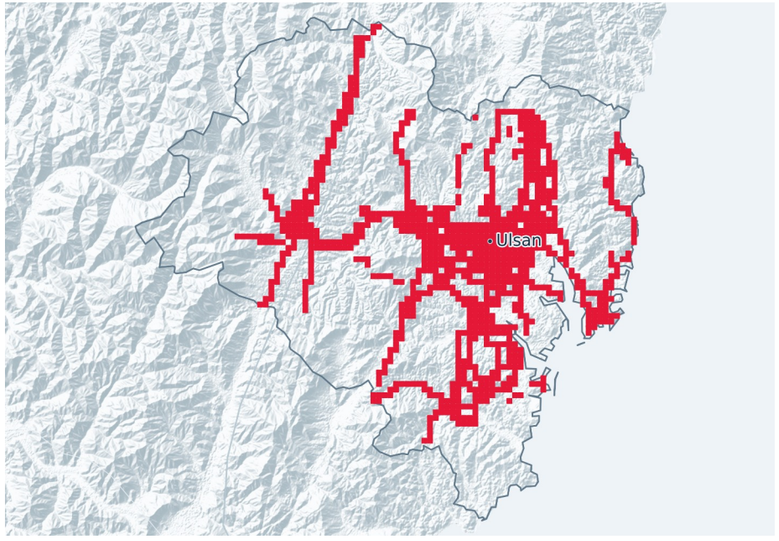
kt

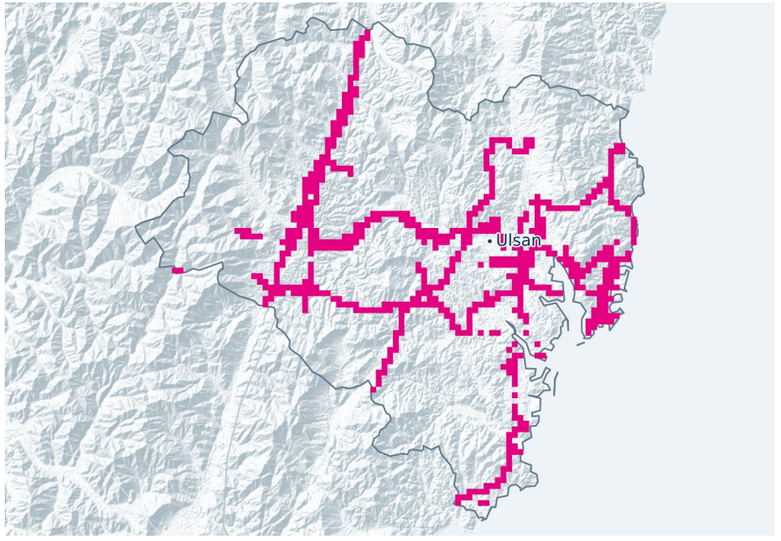
Geographical Coverage	99,86 %
In mobility Pop. Coverage	99,93 %
nPerf Coverage Score	**99,89 %**





Geographical Coverage	99,90 %
In mobility Pop. Coverage	99,94 %
nPerf Coverage Score	**99,92 %**





Geographical Coverage	99,38 %
In mobility Pop. Coverage	99,43 %
nPerf Coverage Score	**99,41 %**

8. Regional 5G coverage: Methodology

Regions	Measurements	Device count	Measurements per operator
Gyeonggi-do	632 771	19 611	43% 32% 25%
Seoul	233 121	7 268	55% 14% 31%
Gyeongsangbuk-do	184 967	5 084	26% 68%
Chungcheongbuk-do	156 434	3 616	12% 81%
Gyeongsangnam-do	101 599	4 647	65% 19% 16%
Chungcheongnam-do	75 821	4 359	44% 32% 24%
Ulsan	71 872	1 308	16% 74% 10%
Incheon	67 021	3 336	28% 13% 59%
Busan	56 065	2 175	66% 20% 14%
Daegu	53 285	2 094	30% 10% 60%
Gangwon-do	52 195	3 268	50% 42% 8%
Jeju	20 786	888	63% 34%
Jeollabuk-do	20 044	1 260	35% 34% 31%
Jeollanam-do	18 566	803	82% 12%
Daejeon	18 237	1 155	39% 58%
Sejong	6 430	489	31% 41% 28%
Gwangju	2 178	176	25% 28% 47%

KT
SK Telecom
U+

See regional details for region having more than 1000 devices count and ISPs with more than 20% share of test

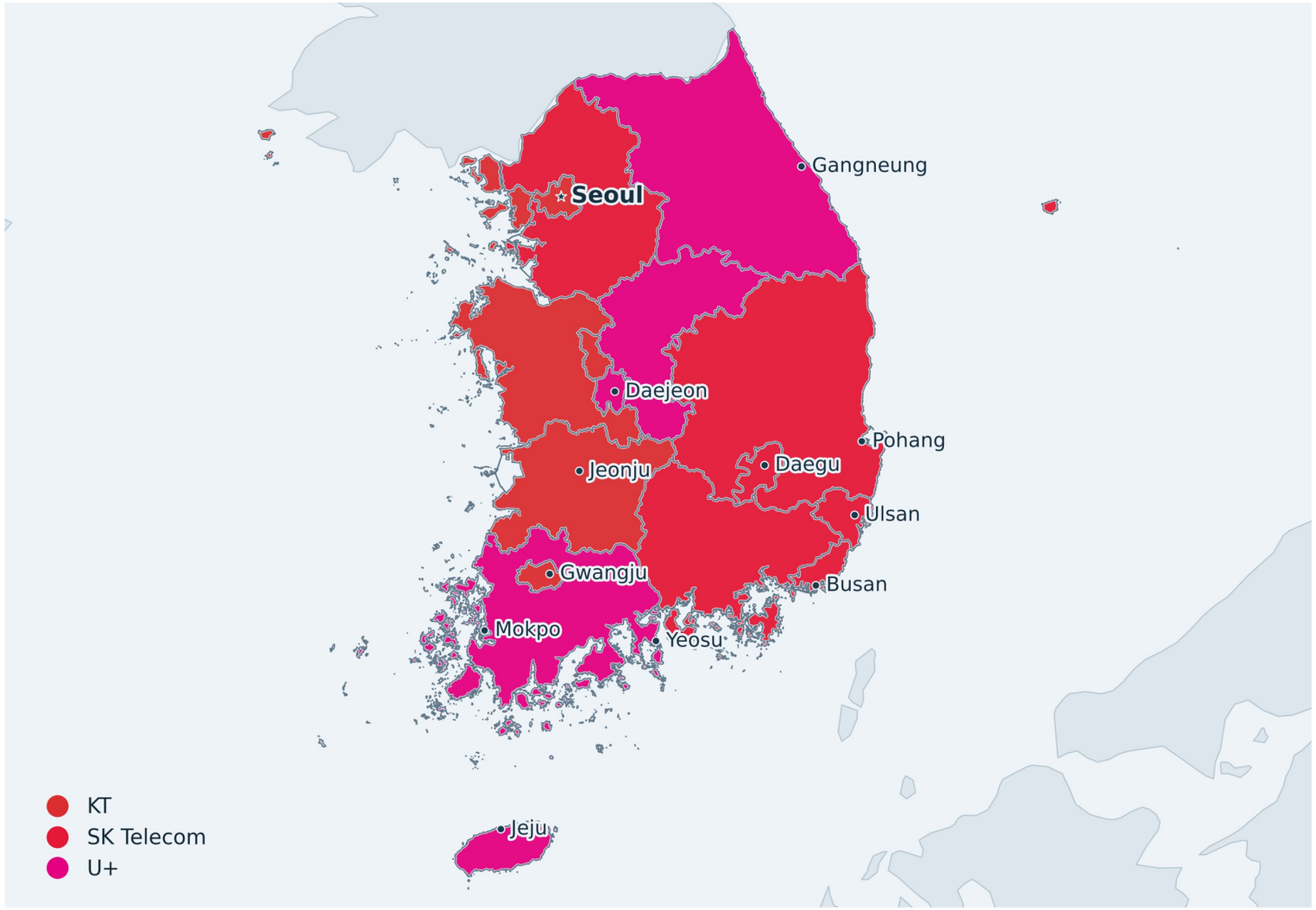
Regional 5G coverage

nPerf Coverage Score



Source : nPerf.com

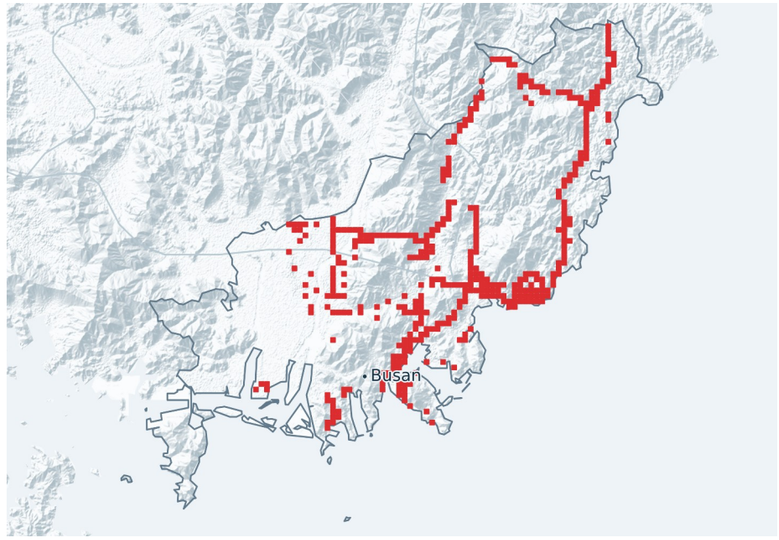
Regional Winner



Source : nPerf.com

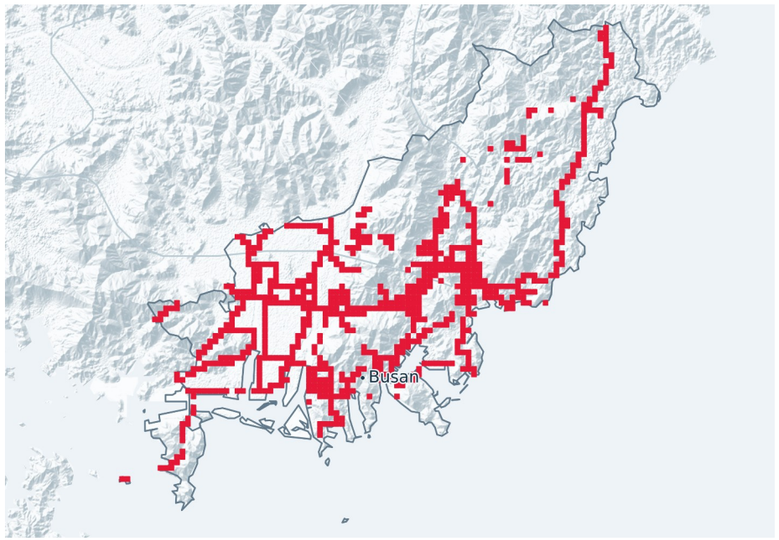
5G coverage — Busan

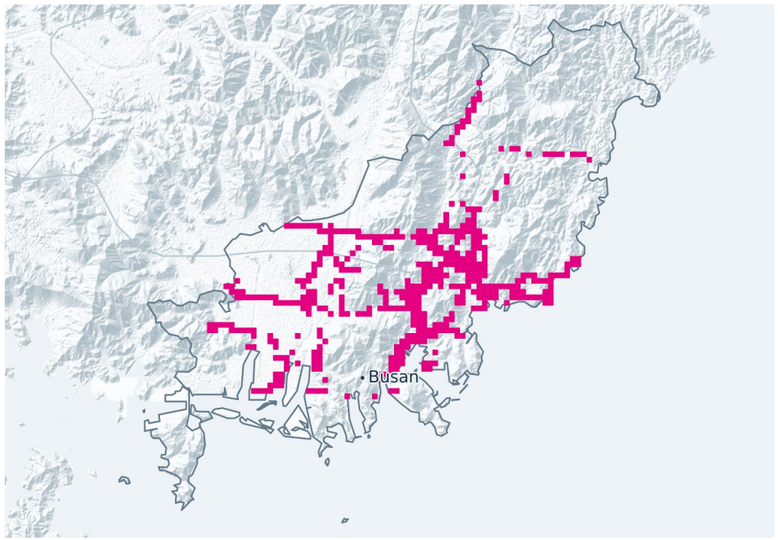
Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
87,24 %	92,21 %	**89,73 %**





Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
95,38 %	96,66 %	**96,02 %**





Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
63,85 %	75,86 %	**69,86 %**

5G coverage — Chungcheongbuk-do

Geographical Coverage

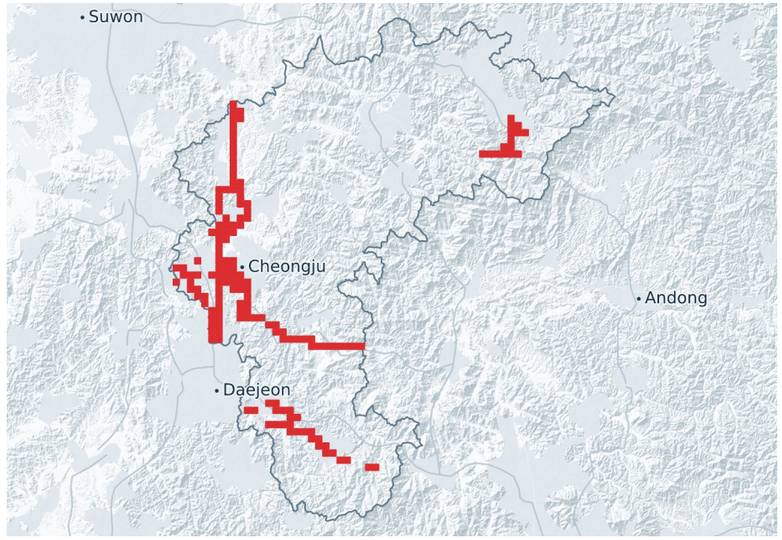
79,94 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

81,95 %

nPerf Coverage Score

80,95 %





Geographical Coverage

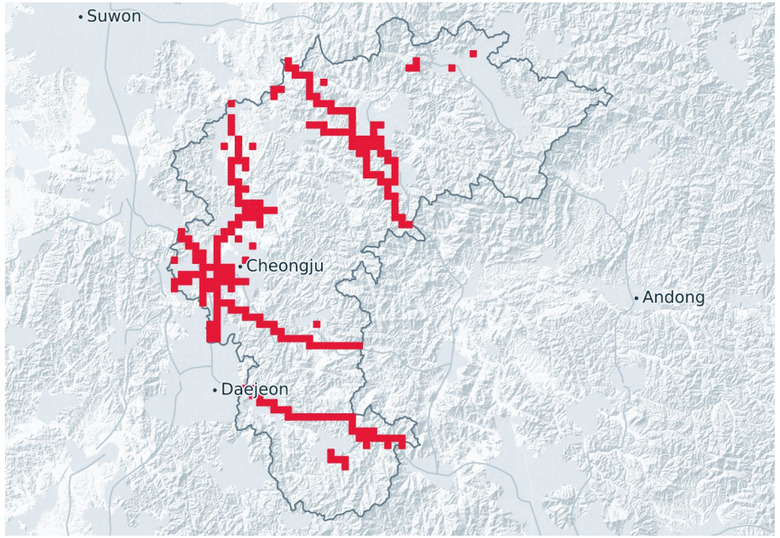
74,23 %

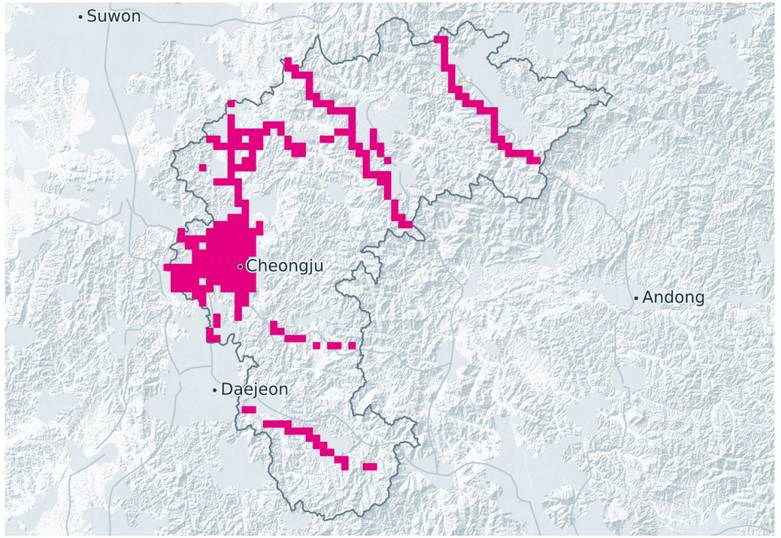
In mobility Pop. Coverage

86,39 %

nPerf Coverage Score

80,31 %





Geographical Coverage

94,15 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

95,41 %

nPerf Coverage Score

94,78 %

5G coverage — Chungcheongnam-do

kt

Geographical Coverage

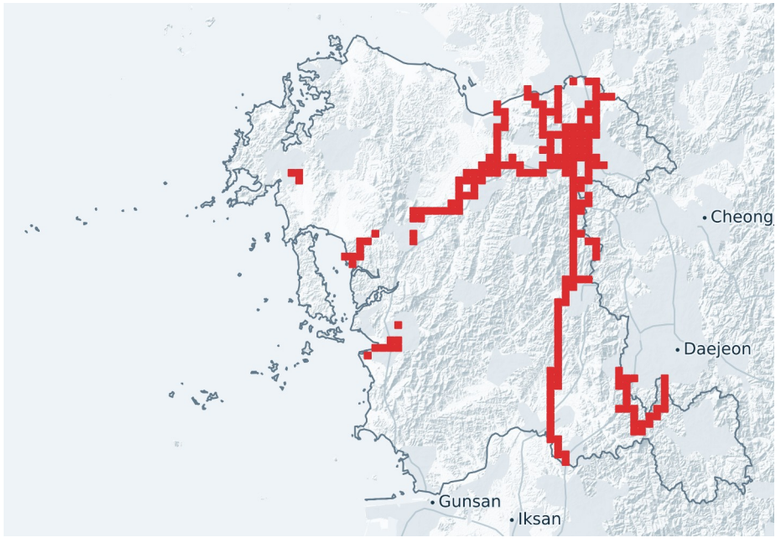
95,12 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

97,03 %

nPerf Coverage Score

96,08 %





Geographical Coverage

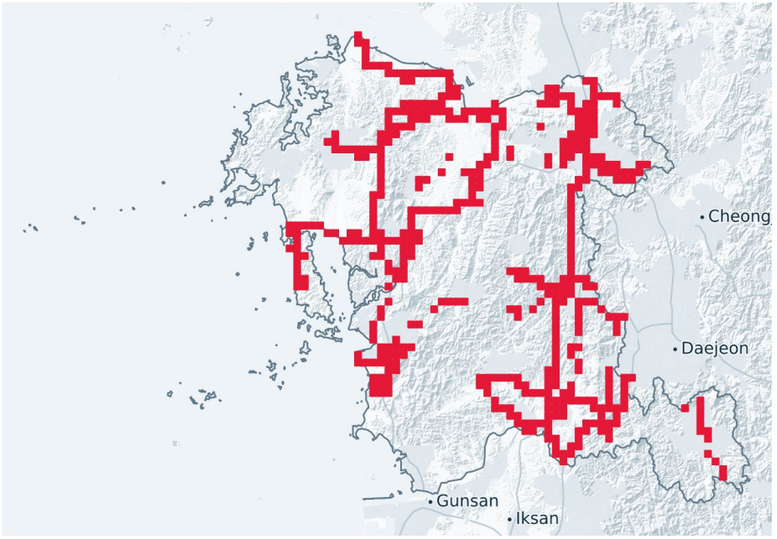
87,66 %

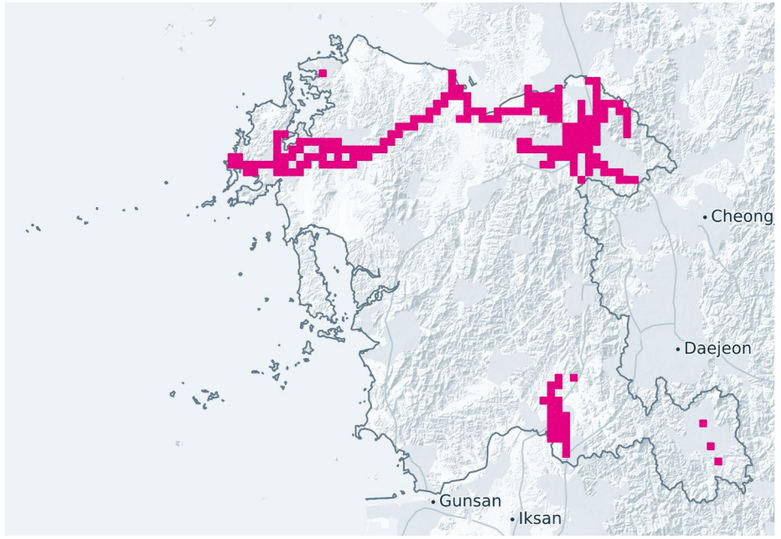
In mobility Pop. Coverage

92,67 %

nPerf Coverage Score

90,17 %





Geographical Coverage

90,34 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

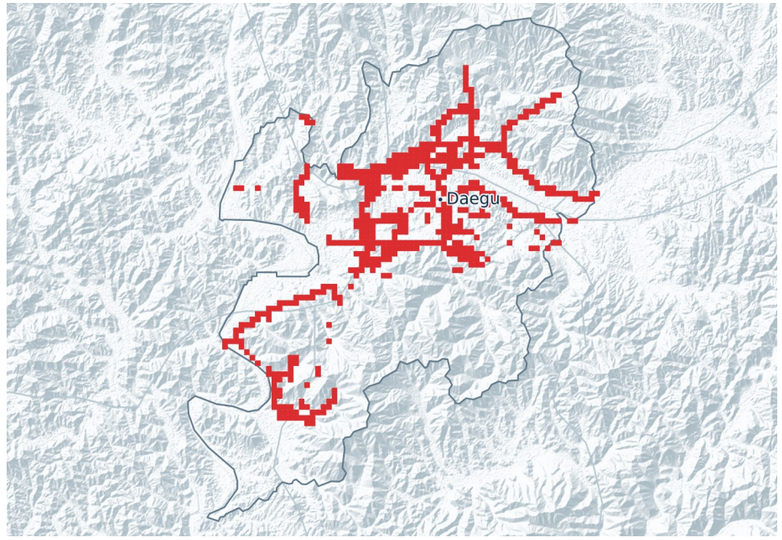
92,20 %

nPerf Coverage Score

91,27 %

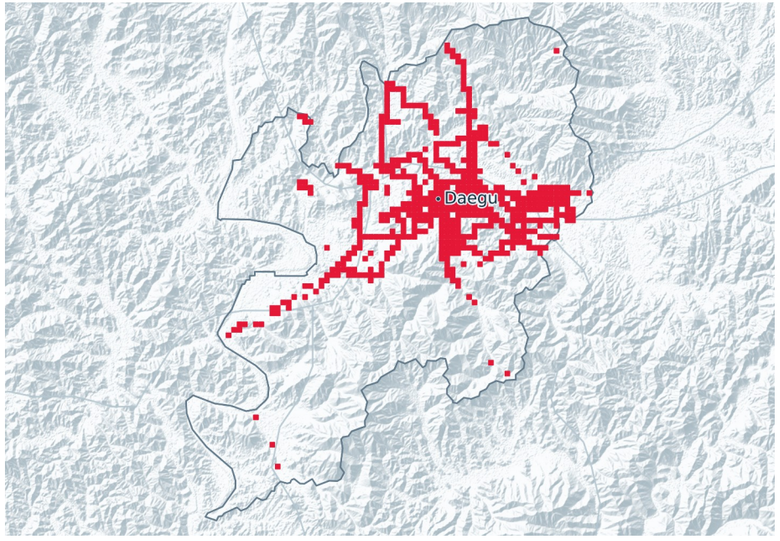
5G coverage — Daegu

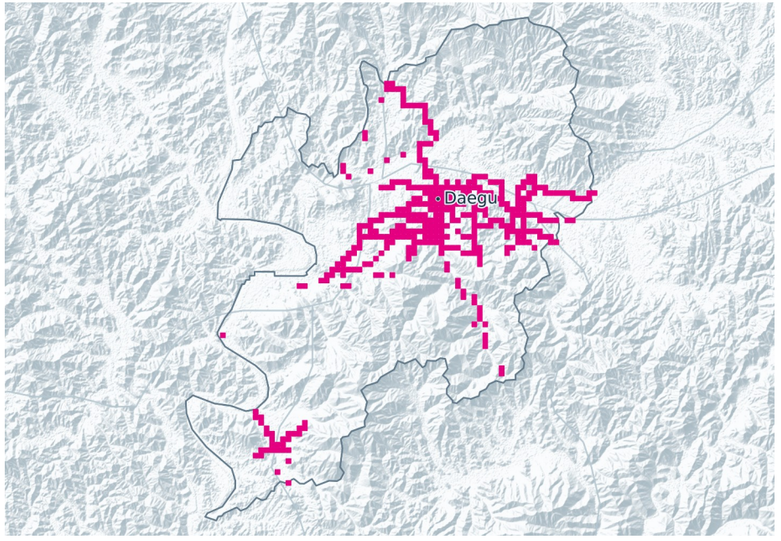
Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
89,93 %	92,12 %	**91,03 %**





Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
94,53 %	96,69 %	**95,61 %**

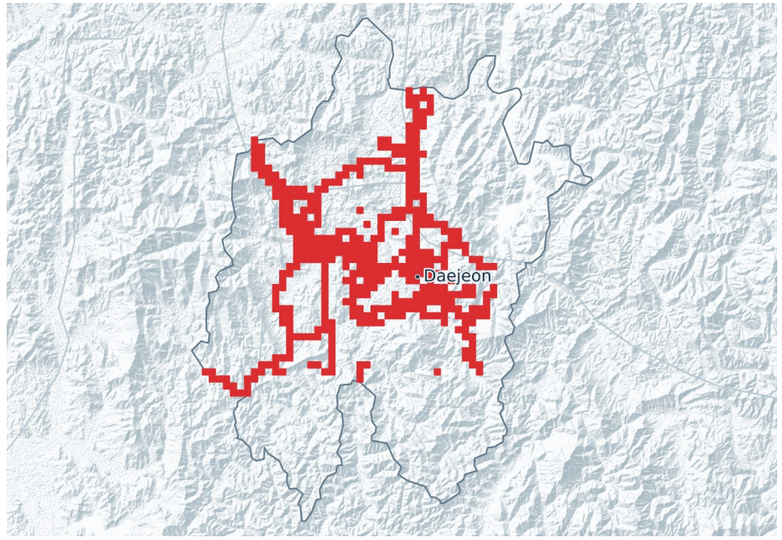


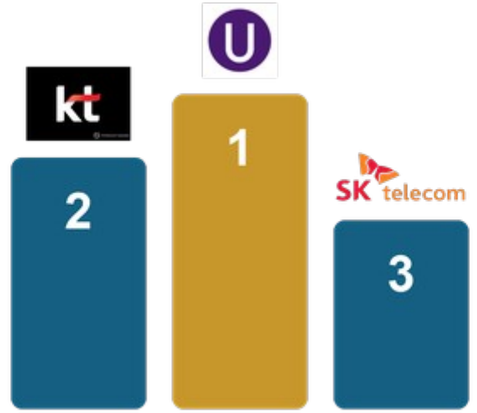


Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
82,55 %	88,00 %	**85,28 %**

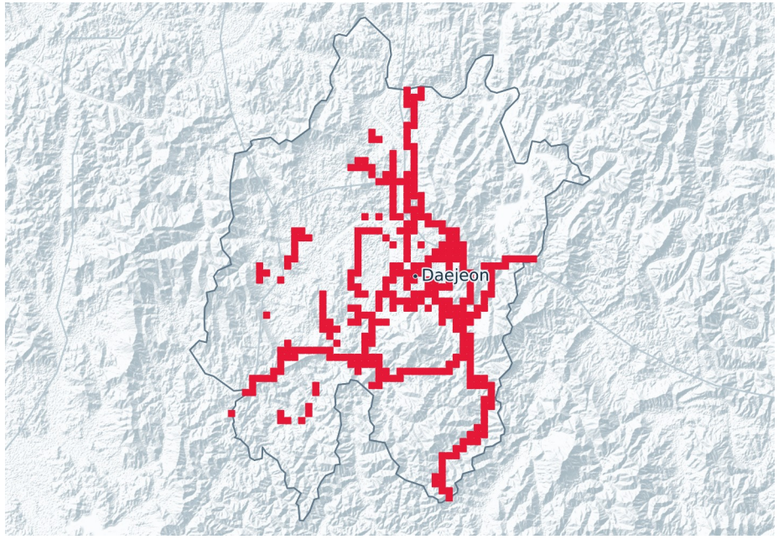
5G coverage — Daejeon

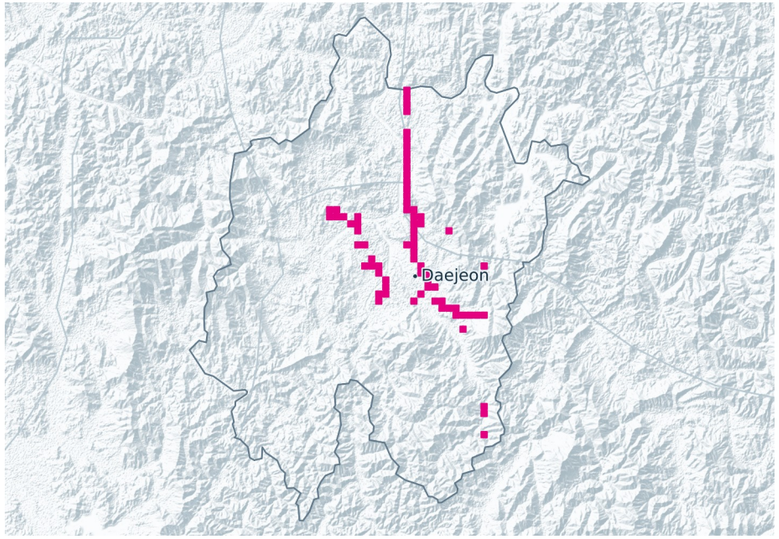
Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
92,90 %	94,27 %	**93,59 %**





Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
66,05 %	71,27 %	**68,66 %**





Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
94,52 %	95,77 %	**95,14 %**

5G coverage — Gangwon-do

Geographical Coverage

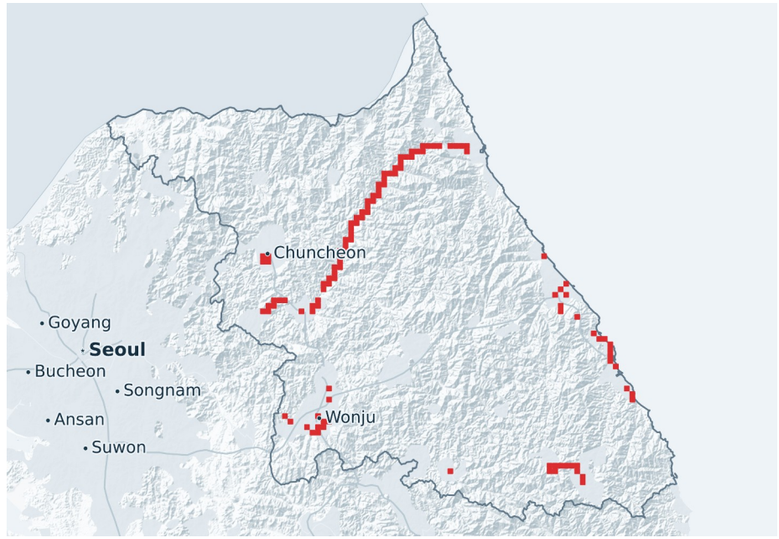
77,06 %

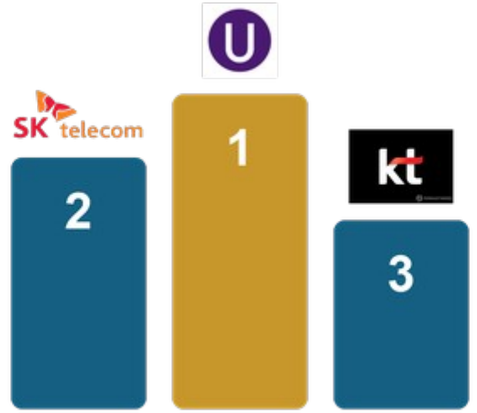
In mobility Pop. Coverage

75,81 %

nPerf Coverage Score

76,43 %





Geographical Coverage

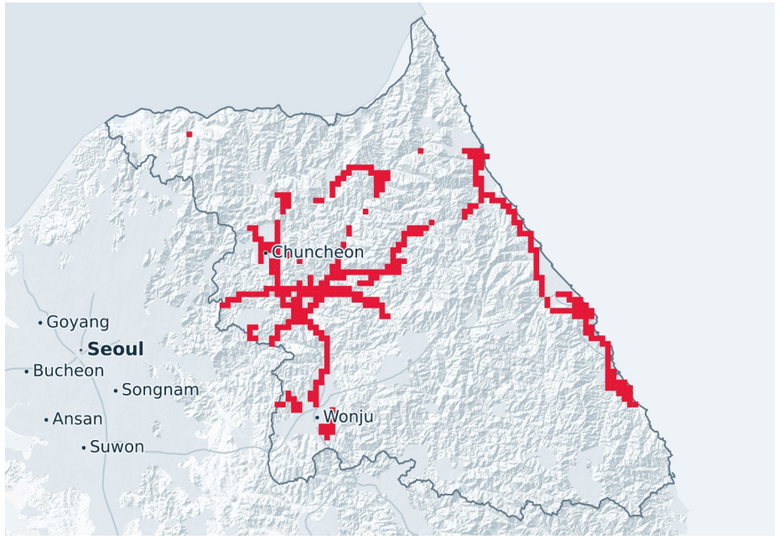
83,08 %

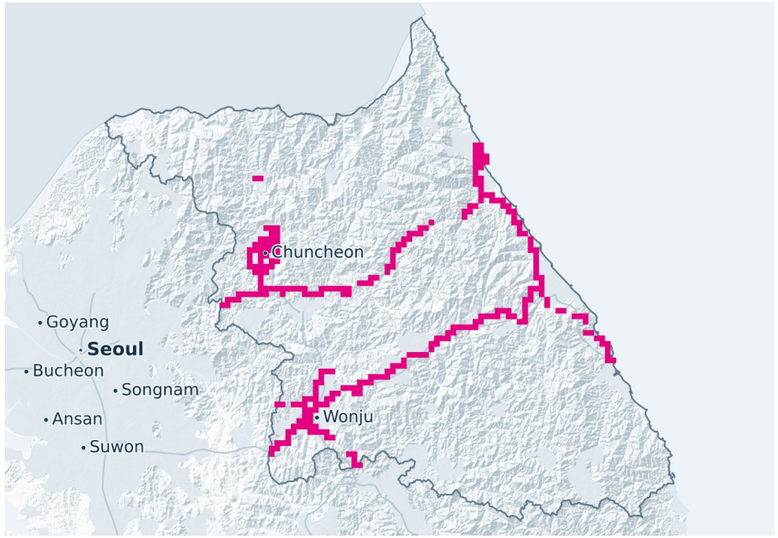
In mobility Pop. Coverage

84,58 %

nPerf Coverage Score

83,83 %





Geographical Coverage

97,26 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

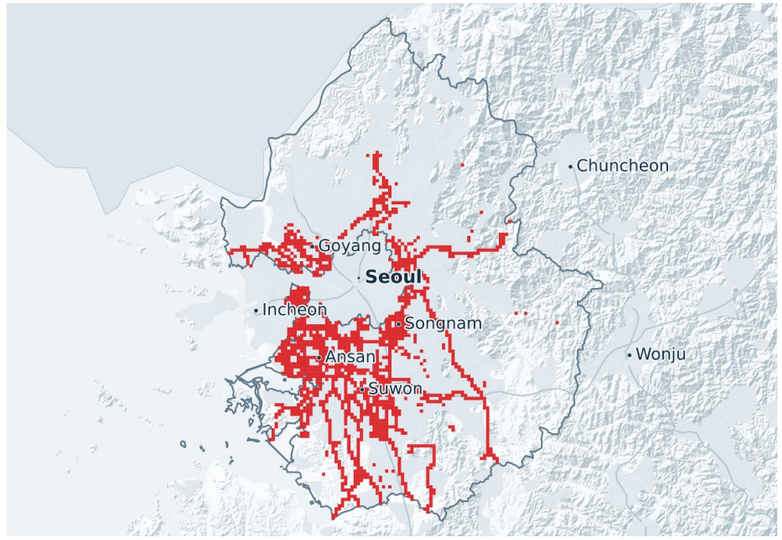
98,13 %

nPerf Coverage Score

97,69 %

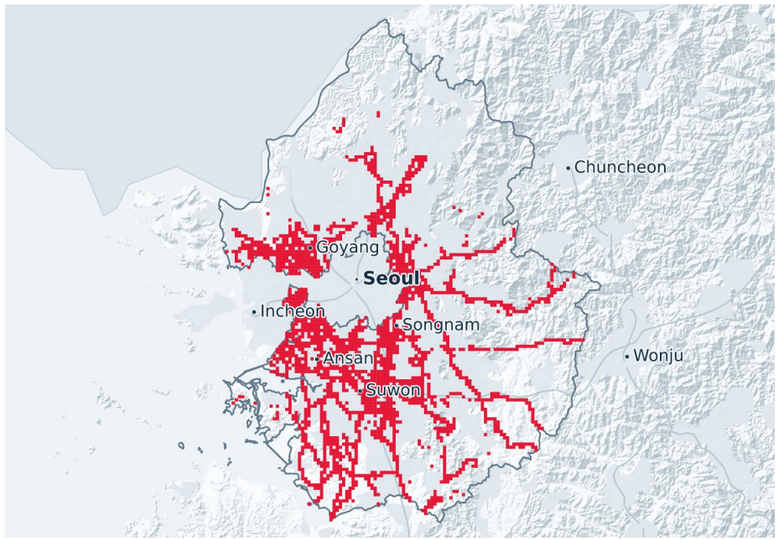
5G coverage — Gyeonggi-do

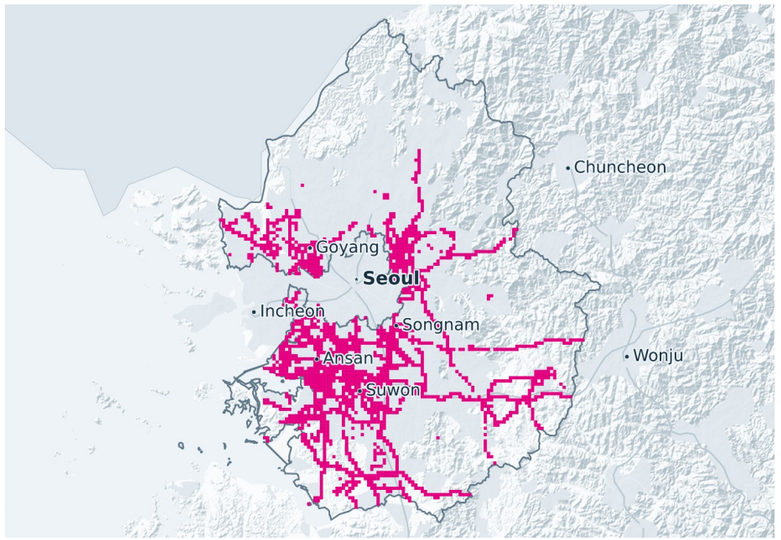
Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
89,03 %	91,19 %	**90,11 %**





Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
89,99 %	93,29 %	**91,64 %**





Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
88,36 %	91,77 %	**90,06 %**

5G coverage — Gyeongsangbuk-do

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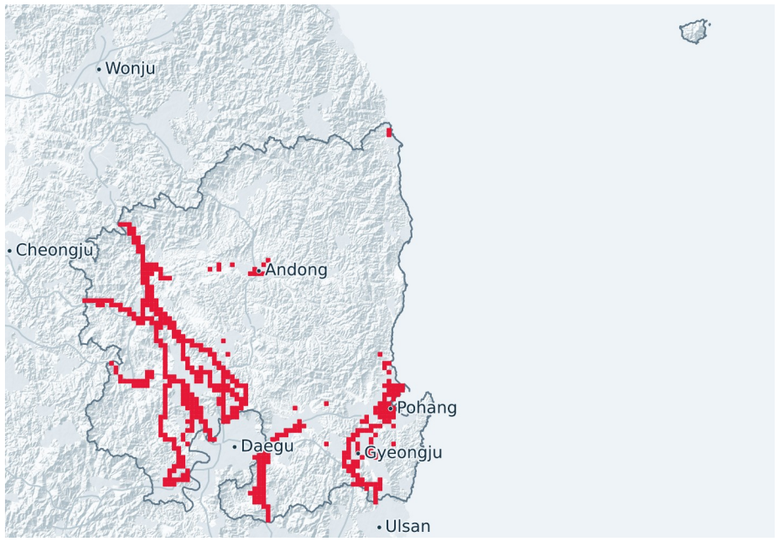
Geographical Coverage	88,25 %
In mobility Pop. Coverage	89,56 %
nPerf Coverage Score	**88,91 %**





Geographical Coverage	94,23 %
In mobility Pop. Coverage	96,07 %
nPerf Coverage Score	**95,15 %**

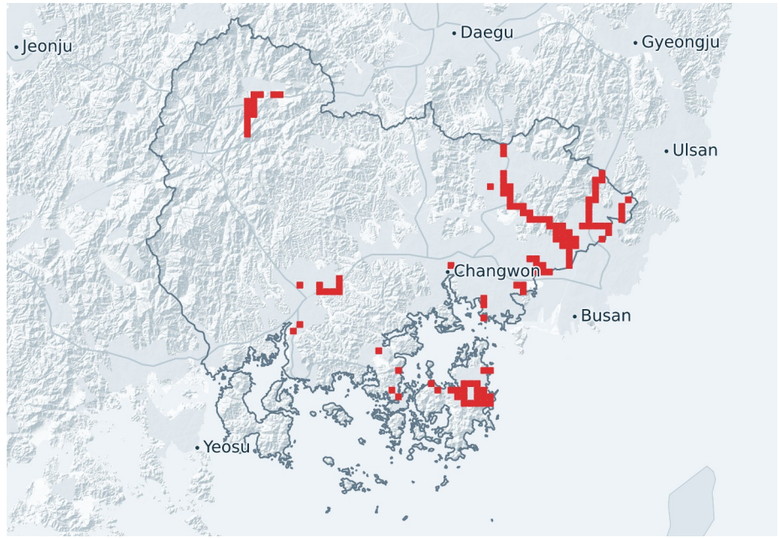




Geographical Coverage	85,60 %
In mobility Pop. Coverage	83,73 %
nPerf Coverage Score	**84,67 %**

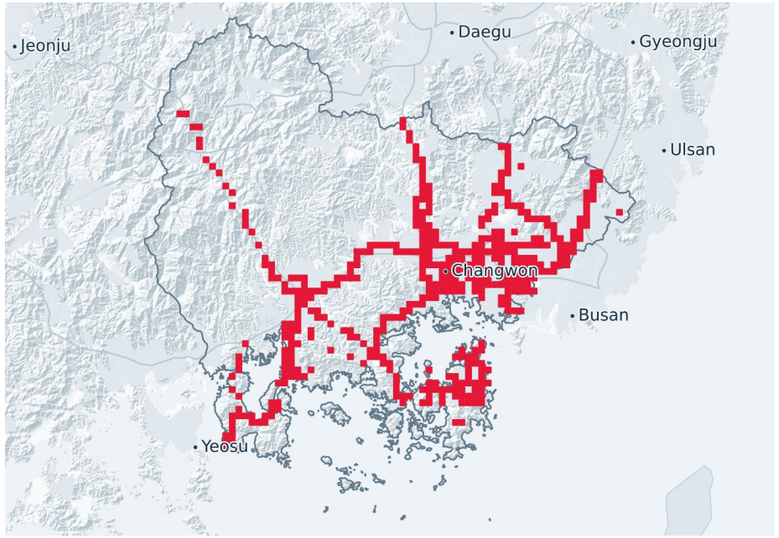
5G coverage — Gyeongsangnam-do

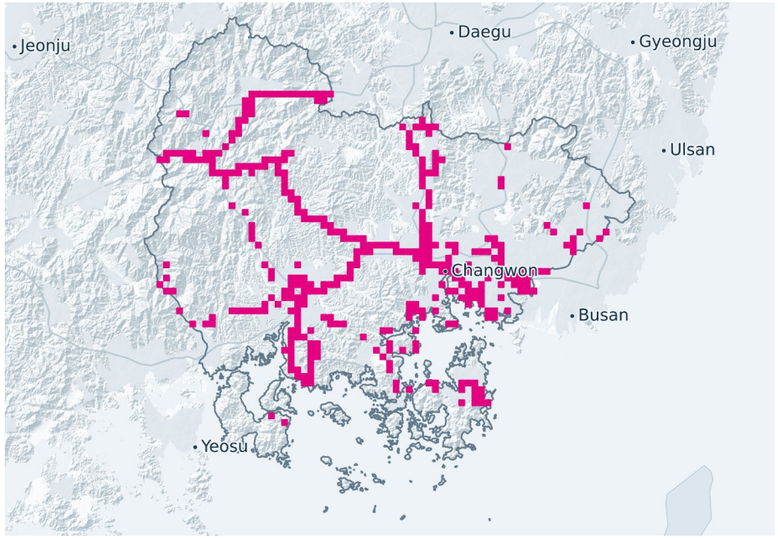
Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
70,69 %	74,50 %	**72,59 %**





Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
94,39 %	96,48 %	**95,44 %**





Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
88,24 %	89,48 %	**88,86 %**

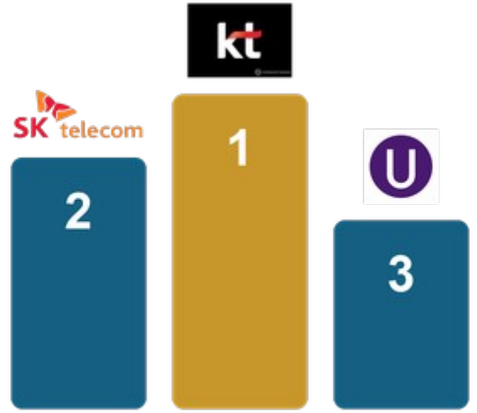
5G coverage — Incheon

Geographical Coverage
94,03 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
96,70 %

nPerf Coverage Score
95,36 %

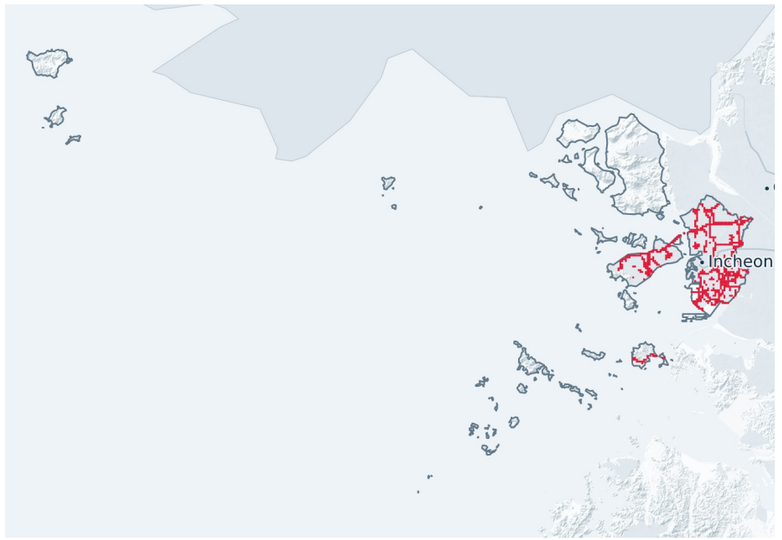


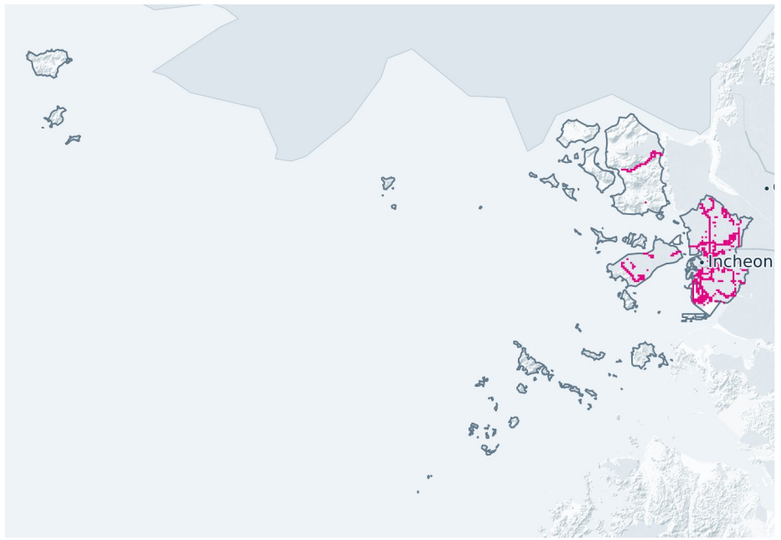


Geographical Coverage
92,17 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
94,51 %

nPerf Coverage Score
93,34 %





Geographical Coverage
90,69 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
90,93 %

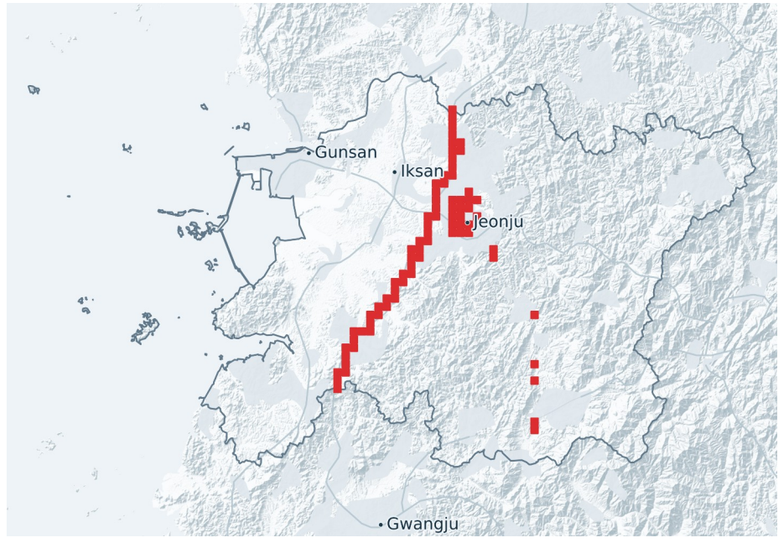
nPerf Coverage Score
90,81 %

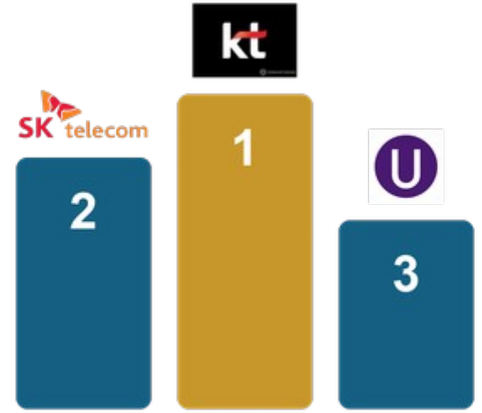
5G coverage — Jeollabuk-do

Geographical Coverage
97,65 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
98,14 %

nPerf Coverage Score
97,90 %

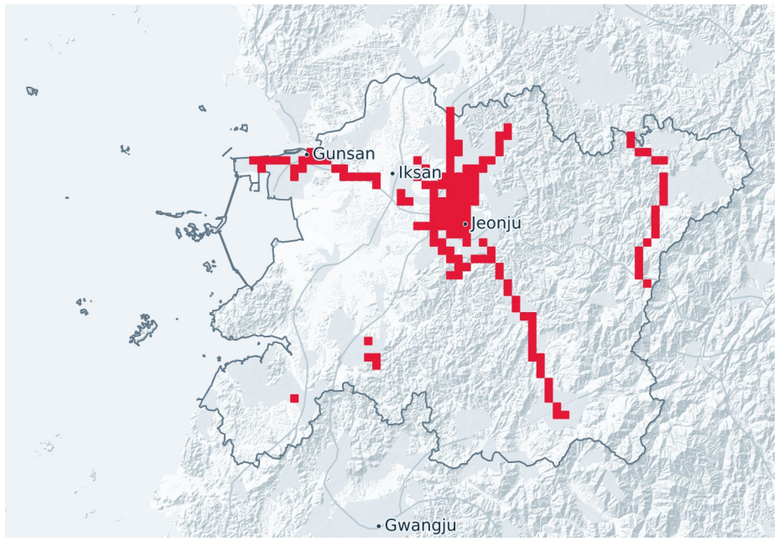


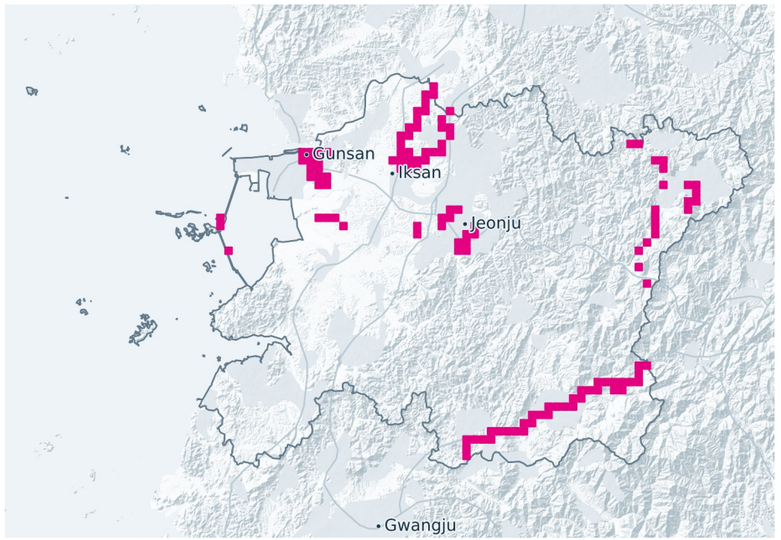


Geographical Coverage
86,86 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage
91,17 %

nPerf Coverage Score
89,01 %





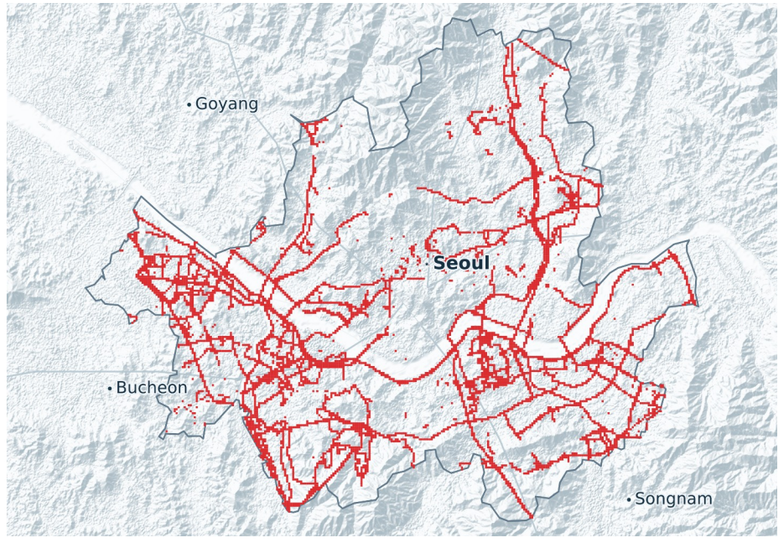
Geographical Coverage
59,55 %

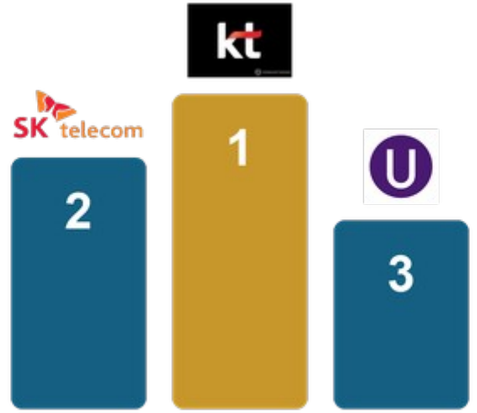
In mobility Pop. Coverage
43,67 %

nPerf Coverage Score
51,61 %

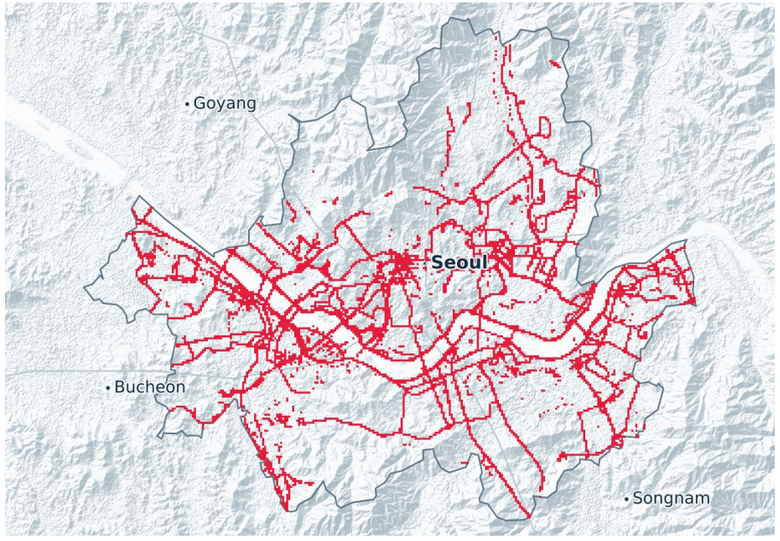
5G coverage — Seoul

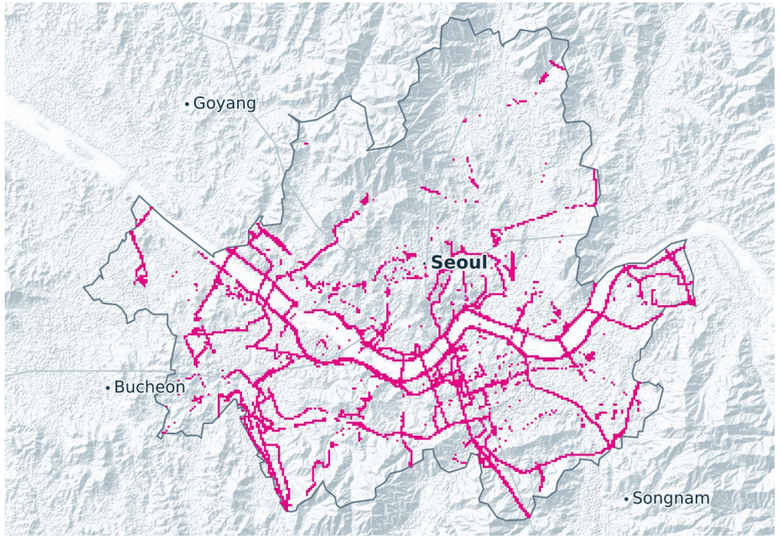
Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
97,57 %	98,61 %	**98,09 %**





Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
94,80 %	96,80 %	**95,80 %**





Geographical Coverage	In mobility Pop. Coverage	nPerf Coverage Score
92,66 %	95,78 %	**94,22 %**

5G coverage — Ulsan

Geographical Coverage

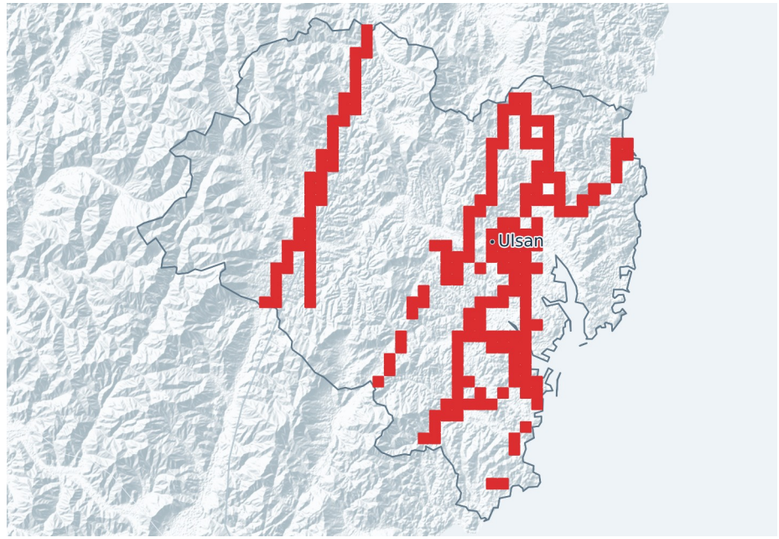
88,26 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

87,96 %

nPerf Coverage Score

88,11 %





Geographical Coverage

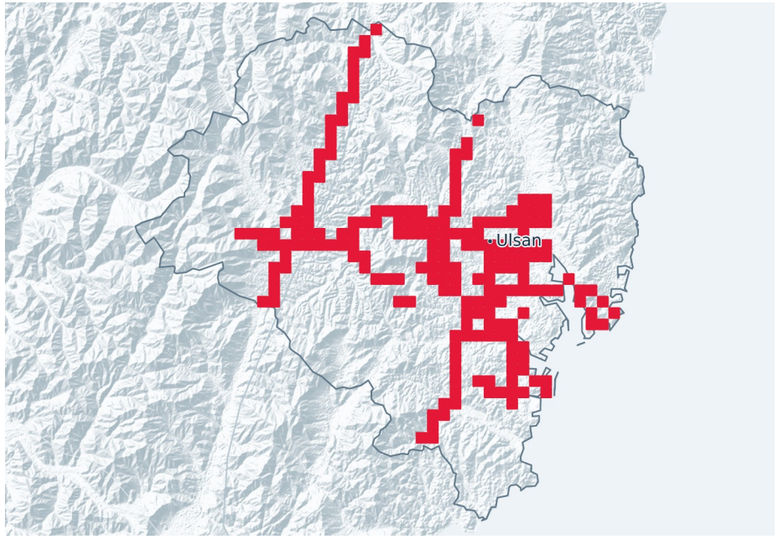
91,24 %

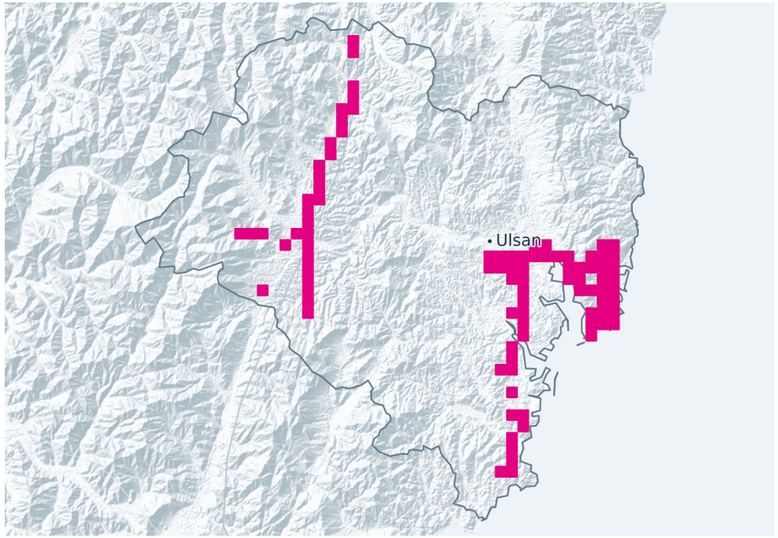
In mobility Pop. Coverage

92,52 %

nPerf Coverage Score

91,88 %





Geographical Coverage

80,25 %

In mobility Pop. Coverage

88,91 %

nPerf Coverage Score

84,58 %


nperf
We qualify your connection