

# 'Imitate' China, the US will deploy dense camera system, a surveillance camera 4 people

There will be 1 billion public surveillance cameras deployed globally by 2021.

According to data compiled by IHS Markit in conjunction with The Wall Street Journal report, there will be 1 billion public surveillance cameras deployed worldwide by 2021. 560 million of them will be installed in areas public in the world's most populous country: China, while 85 million devices are used in the US.

At a glance, the number of public surveillance cameras in China is outperforming the United States, but if measured by population size, the ratio of cameras / population between the two countries will be equivalent - average. 1 camera will monitor at least 4 people.

By the end of 2018, China has a total of 350 million cameras installed in public areas, equivalent to 4.1 people per camera. While this rate in the US is approximately 4.6 people / 1 camera (372.2 million people: 70 million cameras). Taiwan ranked third with 1 camera for 5.5 citizens. In the next position are the United Kingdom and Ireland (1: 6.5) and Singapore (1: 7.1).

## Population vs installed base in 2015 and 2018

	2015 Population per camera	2018 Population per camera
China	6.8	4.1
USA	6.9	4.6
Taiwan	7.1	5.5
UK and Eire	8.2	6.5
Singapore	12.8	7.1

Data issued: November 2019

Source: 2019 Informa Tech LLC.

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'In the past few years, China has emerged as a camera powerhouse 'with a dense presence of CCTV systems combined with artificial intelligence (AI) technology everywhere. However, most people just look at the number of cameras and forget that in terms of the ratio of cameras to the population, the United States is not inferior, almost equal to China. So in the future, the debate about the implementation of public surveillance camera systems and the freedom and privacy of people will certainly become very hot, " said Philip Philippou, an analyst of IHS Markit said.

However, there will be a little difference in the way of deploying surveillance camera systems in these two powers. In China, most public cameras will be linked to a government-based facial recognition management system, installed for personal surveillance in street, bus and station areas. ship and airport. While in the US,

surveillance cameras are mainly used for retail and commercial purposes. That is why more and more people are voicing concerns about the excessive intervention of China's dense CCTV system on people's privacy.

<b>The installed base for security cameras by region: World</b>		
Installed base units (thousands)		
	<b>2018</b>	<b>2021</b>
EMEA	88,254.2	131,946.7
Americas	121,227.1	168,198.8
China	348,617.9	567,239.8
Asia (excluding China)	97,716.7	150,056.1
<b>Total</b>		
<b>Installed base units (thou</b>	<b>655,815.9</b>	<b>1,017,441.4</b>

Data issued: November 2019  
Source: IHS Markit

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Anyway, the deployment of large-scale public surveillance camera systems will still be the world's general surveillance trend in the future. The only problem lies in how to maintain the harmony between this camera system and the legitimate rights of the people.

1. The system of 170 million Chinese surveillance cameras can find a BBC correspondent in just 7 minutes

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