



TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY  
of Trinidad & Tobago

# DTT Roadmap

*Digitalize Trinidad & Tobago by 2026*



# DTT Roadmap Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Recap and Rationale
- ATSC 3.0 Overview – Amy Lodes, ATSC
- DTT Signal Distributor Models
- DTT Economic Analysis
- DTT Roadmap and Next Steps
- Open Floor and Discussions



# Recap of Industry deliberations to date

- TATT has been in dialogue with the industry since 2010 on DTT
- Meeting held in 2018 on DTT standard and economic viability of a single signal distributor (SD)
  - Preference expressed by industry on ATSC 3.0 standard
  - Need to review economic viability
  - TTPBA submitted comments on behalf of the broadcasters for TATT to address
- TATT undertook to review economic viability of the single SD
- Work on DTT has resumed after a pause to focus on FM radio matters which are now resolved



# Objective

The Authority endeavours to provide an enabling environment for industry sustainability, consumer benefit and technological advancement. In respect of DTT this includes, but is not limited to:

- I. Providing clarity to the industry on the roadmap to DTT adoption
- II. Accommodating flexible and sustainable arrangements that enable the transition to DTT and the accrual of its benefits
- III. Collaborating with the industry to ensure a suitable environment is fostered to make the transition beneficial to consumers and broadcasters

# Rationale

## FTA TV Market Status Quo

- Minimal additional revenue streams
- Technological stagnation and **obsolescence**
- Quality stagnation
- Declining earnings and market share
- Slowed network investment and expansion



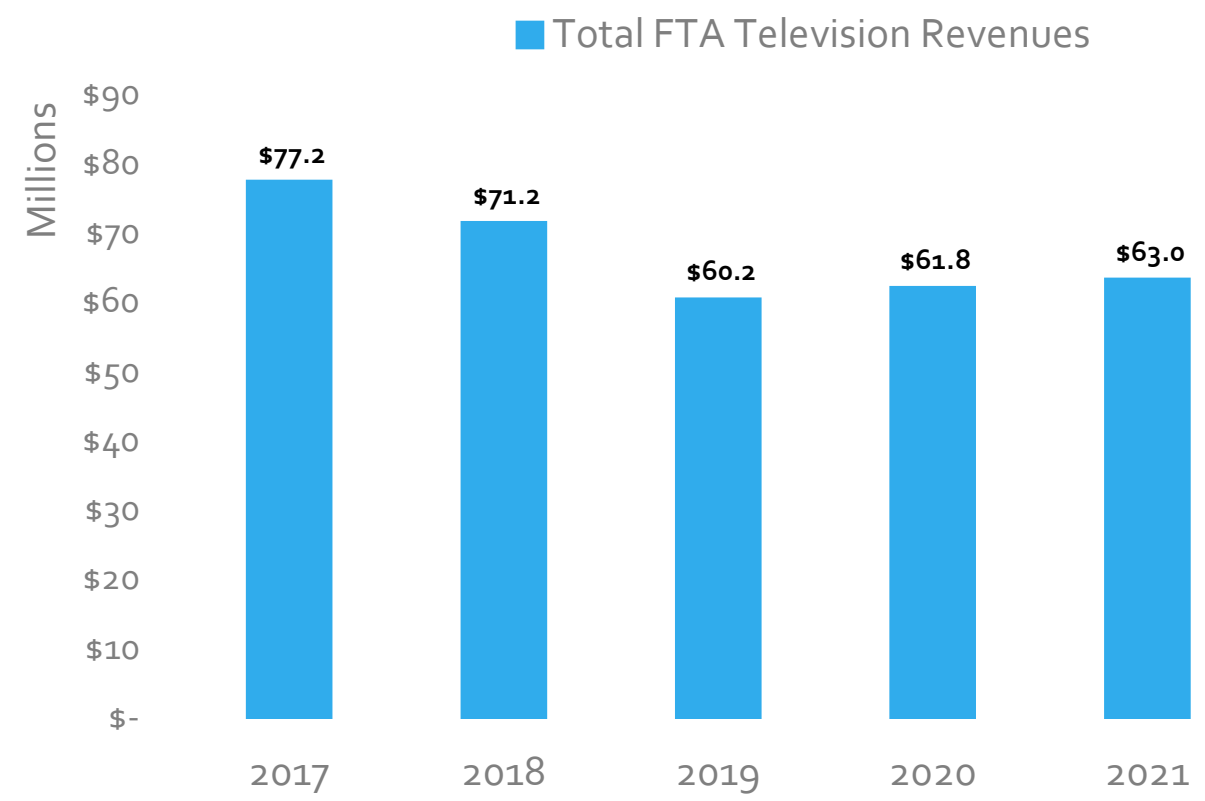
## FTA TV Market adopting DTT

- New Markets
- New revenue streams
- Additional Channel opportunities
- Innovation
- Significantly enhanced service quality
- Opportunity to reduce costs via infrastructure sharing



# FTA TV Market Trends

*Opportunity for market innovation*



- Gradually declining revenues
- Increased market concentration over last 10 years
- Product convergence

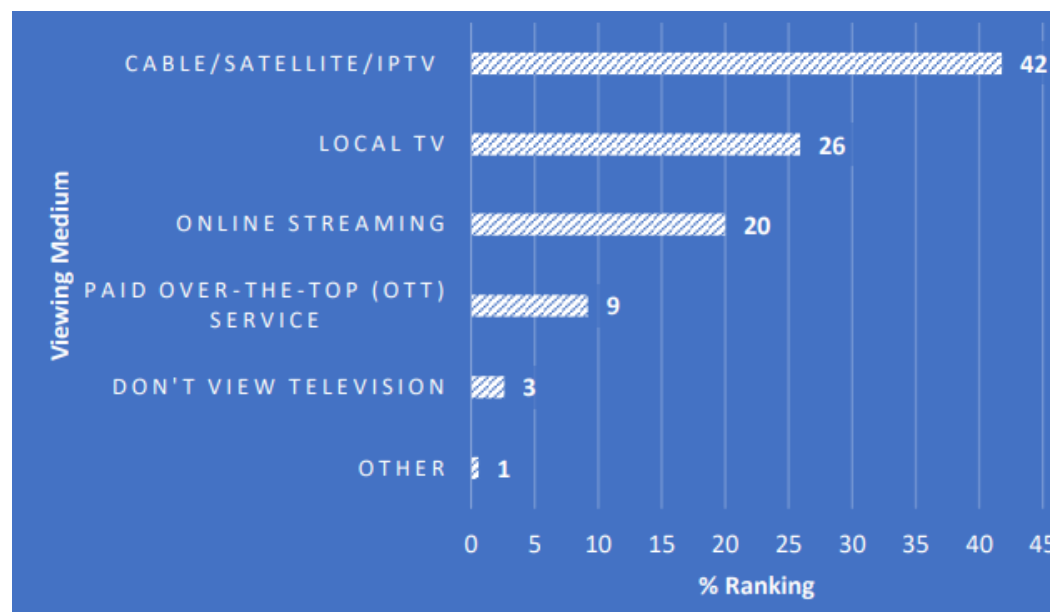


# FTA TV Demand

*FTA still presents a significant market opportunity*

National Digital Inclusion Survey 2021

## *Rankings of television viewing preferences*



Indicator	Source	Result
Households with a TV device	2021 (DIS)	93.6%
Households without Subscription TV	2021 (AMR)	<b>41.3%</b>
Households that consume FTA (including OTT)	2021 (DIS)	37.2%
Households that prefer FTA TV	2021 (DIS)	26%



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# ATSC 3.0 Overview by ATSC







# DTT Signal Distributor Models

*All options available for FTA broadcasters based on their strategy*

Single Existing Concessionaire	Greenfield Single Entity	Single Industry Consortium	Multiple DTT Transmitters	Hybrid
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low capex investment required</li><li>• Regulatory intervention requirement</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Capex investment higher than existing entity</li><li>• Less regulatory intervention</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lowest capex investment</li><li>• Less regulatory intervention</li><li>• Lowest infrastructure duplication</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Highest Capex option</li><li>• Greatest infrastructure duplication</li><li>• Least regulatory intervention</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Median capex implication</li><li>• Little regulatory intervention as options are available</li></ul>

Eligible bidders for Signal Distributor can include new or existing independent entities, FTA TV broadcasters and subscription TV broadcasters



# Jamaica DTT Implementation

- As of Sep 2022
- 2 FTA TV Broadcasters piloted ATSC 3.0 transmitters
- **ATSC 3.0 Receiver distribution still in progress**
- Proposed a Single SD approach
- Currently a Multiple Transmitter approach
  - Possibly evolve to a Hybrid model of 1 SD with 2 broadcasters, and 1 standalone DTT broadcaster

## TVJ Lights Up Jamaica's Second ATSC 3.0 Transmitter

By [Tom Butts](#) published about 7 hours ago

The switch on of the second transmitter happened in western Jamaica from TVJ's Flower Hill tower in Montego Bay, St. James



## Television Jamaica



# Phoenix Collaborative Model Market



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*Compete on content, collaborate on network infrastructure costs*

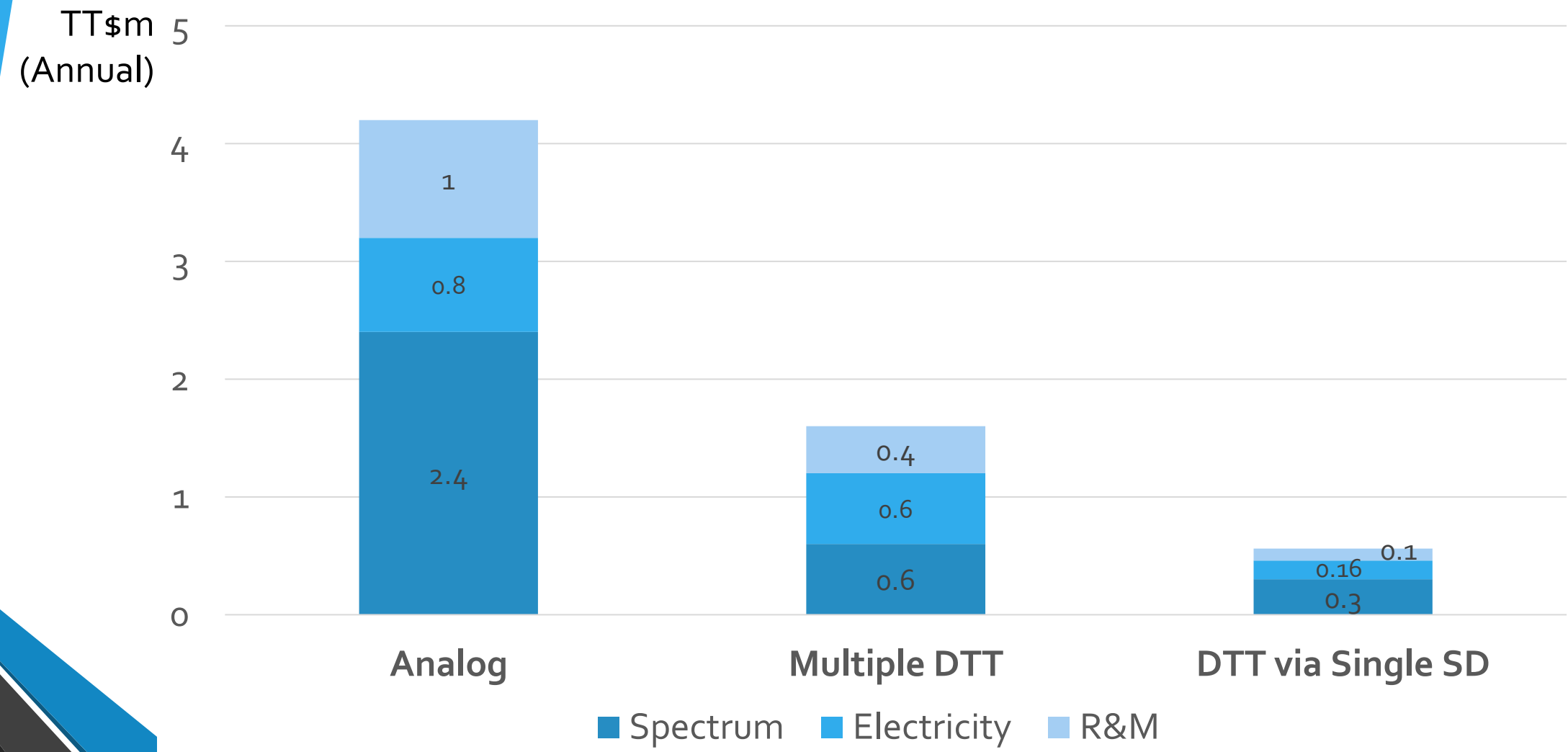


- Phoenix, AZ serves as model market for ATSC 3.0 collaborative deployment in November 2017
- 1.8m households and over one in five FTA viewers
- Led by Pearl TV and comprises 11 stations including ABC, FOX, CBS, CW, NBC & PBS
- Collaborated with Sony to develop EPG in 2018
- Second SFN Transmitter site launched in 2020
- Host Station Manual developed for use
- Collaborations in Detroit including Scripps & NBC, and Florida including ABC, NBC, CBS & FOX



# Industry Opex Benefits of DTT

*Driven by the adoption of a Single Frequency Network using DTT*





# Single Signal Distributor Model

*Single Frequency Network (SFN) comprising 5 sites*

Capital Investment – TT\$9.687 Million

Annual Operational Expenditure – TT\$1.079m

Annual Rent for 4 Players

**TT\$622.5k**

Annual Rent for 5 Players

**TT\$498k**



# Cost Comparison of Alternatives

*Clear cost benefits from Collaborative Single Frequency Network using DTT*

DTT Model Cost per broadcaster	Capex (TT\$)	Annual Opex (TT\$)	Annual Rental (TT\$)	Payback Period (years)
Status quo (analog)	0.1m	> 1,000k	N/A	N/A
Single SD with 4 FTA players	2.42m	270k	622.5k	4
Multiple Transmitter Approach	6.07m	450k	N/A	12+

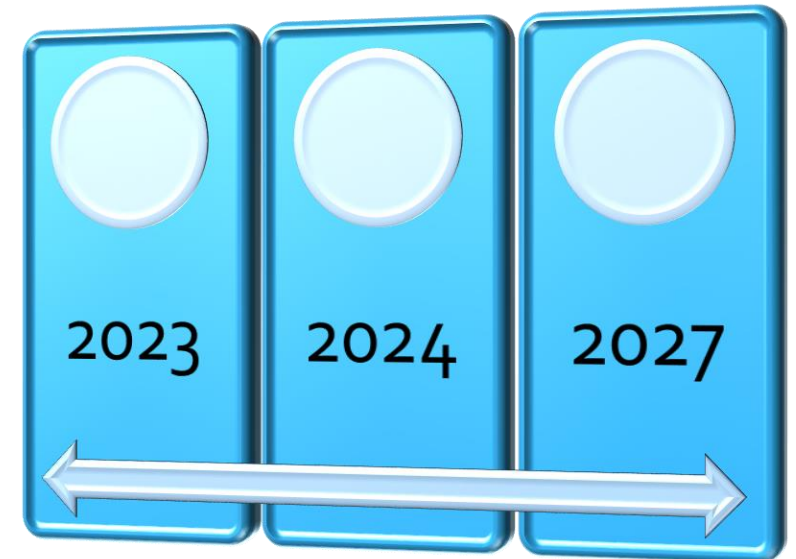
Opex includes Spectrum licences, Electricity, Repairs & Maintenance, Insurance



# Prospective Timeframe

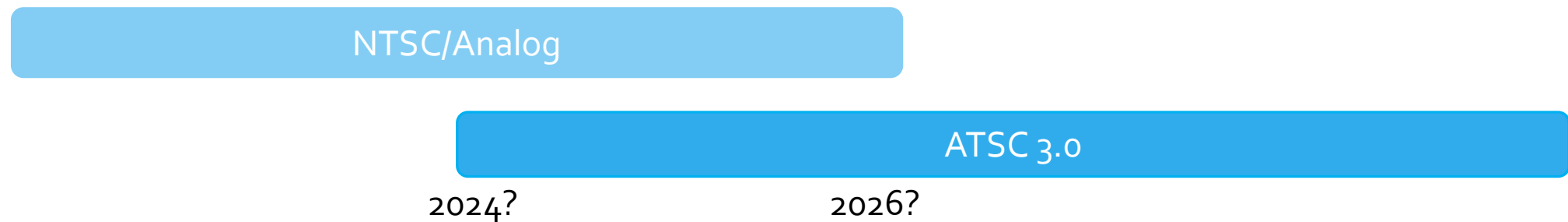
A 3 to 4-year DSO plan may focus on key events for higher viewing interest and DSO monetization

- 2026 World Cup
- 2025 General Elections
- 2024 Olympics (South Korean experience)
- 2025 SEA preparations (Educational Datacasting)





# DTT Transition path



Proliferation of ATSC 3.0 device *ecosystem* to occur from 2023 to 2026 to enable Analog Switch-off





# Next Steps

- Establish an industry Working Group by October 2022 to develop its implementation plan within six (6) months, and drive implementation until Digital Switch Over
- Align on strategy for adoption and proliferation of receivers and agreement on signal distributor model by December 2022
- Collaborate to ensure opportunities and efficiencies available are leveraged
- **Focused development** of a public communications and awareness strategy



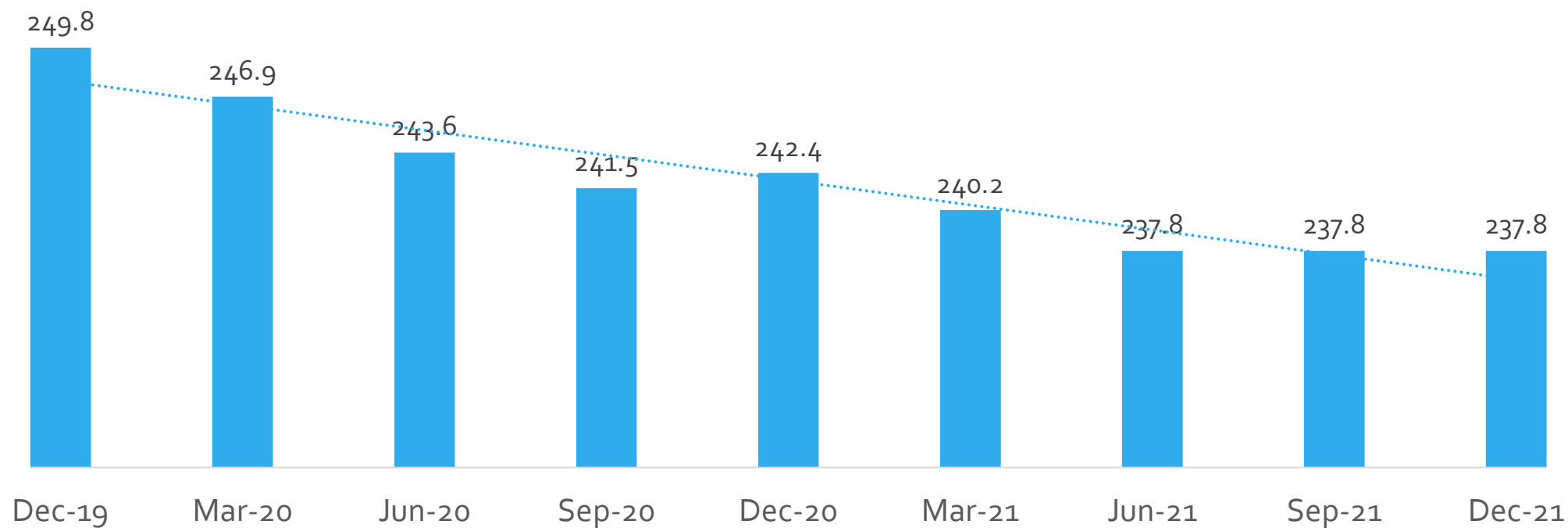
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Thank You



# Trends in Pay TV penetration 2019 - 2021

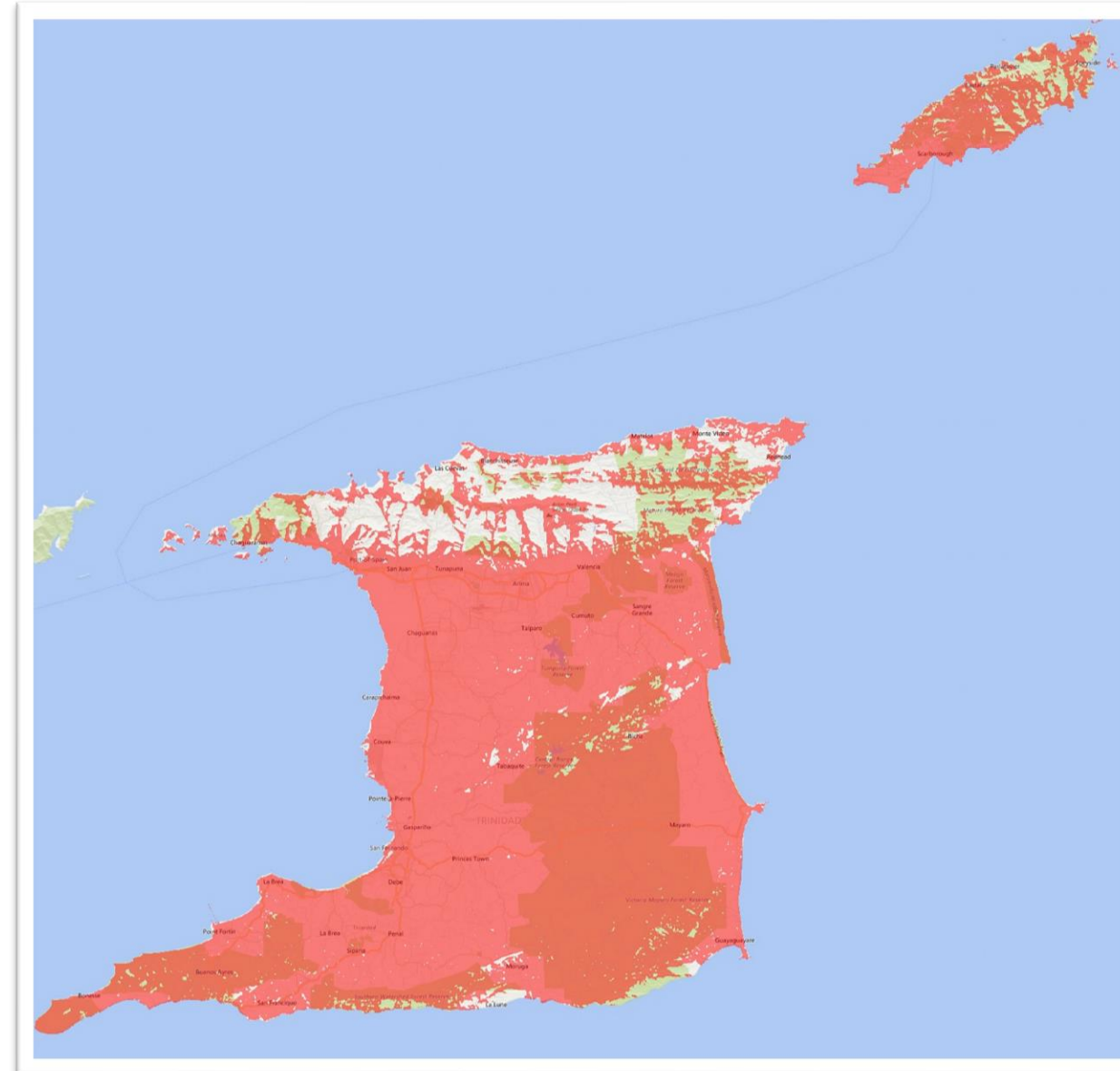
Pay TV subscriptions from Q4 2019 to Q4 2021





# ATSC 3.0 Network

- **Number of Sites:** 5 (1 TRI, 4 TOB)
- **% Coverage (Populated Area):** 94 TRI, 90 TOB
- **Min Received Field Strength:** 41 dB $\mu$ V/m
- **Phy. Layer Config.:** 1 PLP, BCH, 6/15 LDPC (64800) and 64 QAM
- **SNR:** 7.82 dB
- **Data rate:** 12.54 Mbps (accommodates 2 HD and 2 SD channels on 6 MHz)





# ATSC 3.0 Network Costing

Cost Items	\$TTD
Total Equipment	\$ 7,810,139.63
Total Installation	\$ 1,288,485.41
Total Infrastructure	\$ 460,293.75
Fees & Taxes	\$ 128,020.34
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,686,939.13</b>

- Equipment cost include transmission, headend and backhaul equipment
  - Tx and head-end: COMARK 2 kW and 250 W air-cooled digital transmitters, high-power and low power combiner systems, transmission lines and antennas. TITAN Live ATSC 3.0 encoder and Enensys ATSC 3.0 headend stack. Backhaul: U6 GHz STLTP links, with three relay sites
- Infrastructure cost includes all costs related to work to prepare the transmitter sites
- Fees and Taxes only include brokerage fees for the equipment and components to be imported