

Apple's Grip on the Tablet Market

Written by Marco Attard
15. April 2011

Apple will continue owning the majority of the WW tablet market-- as it does nowadays-- at least up til through 2015, according to Gartner. 69% of tablets will carry iOS by 2011's end, and 47% of the market will in 2015.

Worldwide Sales of Media Tablets to End Users by OS (Thousands of Units)

OS	2010	2011	2012	2015
iOS	14,766	47,964	68,670	138,497
Market Share (%)	83.9	68.7	63.5	47.1
Android	2,502	13,898	26,382	113,457
Market Share (%)	14.2	19.9	24.4	38.6
MeeGo	107	788	1,271	3,057
Market Share (%)	0.6	1.1	1.2	1.0
WebOS	0	2,796	4,245	8,886
Market Share (%)	0.0	4.0	3.9	3.0
QNX	0	3,901	7,134	29,496
Market Share (%)	0.0	5.6	6.6	10.0
Other Operating Systems	234	432	510	700
Market Share (%)	1.3	0.6	0.5	0.2
Total Market	17,610	69,780	108,211	294,093

Source: Gartner (April 2011)

Gartner says most other vendors competing against Apple fail to give customers what they really want-- apps, services and slick user experiences. Instead, such vendors prefer to concentrate on hardware features, just as they did when competing against iOS on smartphones.

The analyst forecasts further growth for Android, from 20% WW tablet marketshare in 2011 to 39% in 2015. Google's decision (for the moment) to close down Honeycomb to all but a select

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group of developers is something of a double edged sword-- on one hand it will prevent fragmentation (and supposedly drive more control), on the other it will slow down price decline, thus capping its market share.

RIM's migration of its entire Blackberry portfolio to QNX (the Playbook OS) should offer customers a single consistent experience-- at least once the Playbook hits the market.

Finally, MeeGo and WebOS will remain stuck with limited customer appeal until they also manage to grow within the smartphone market.

Go [Gartner Says Apple iOS to Dominate Tablet Market Through 2015](#)