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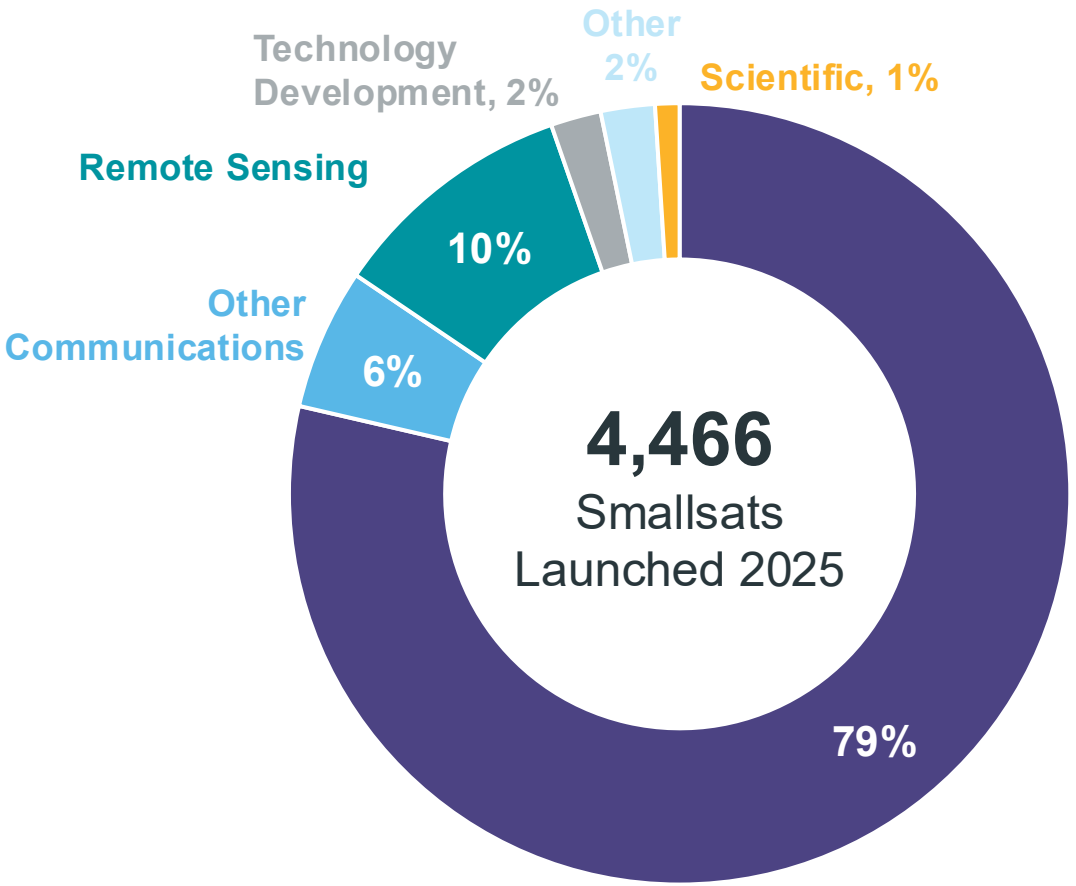
Smallsats by the Numbers

August 2026



2025 Smallsat Highlights

Smallsats by Mission Type



LEO Broadband Megaconstellations
(Starlink, OneWeb, Amazon LEO, Qianfan, Guowang)

Smallsats Launched in 2025

Smallsats defined by having mass of ≤1,200 kg

98% of all spacecraft (2024: 97%)

85% of spacecraft upmass (2024: 82%)

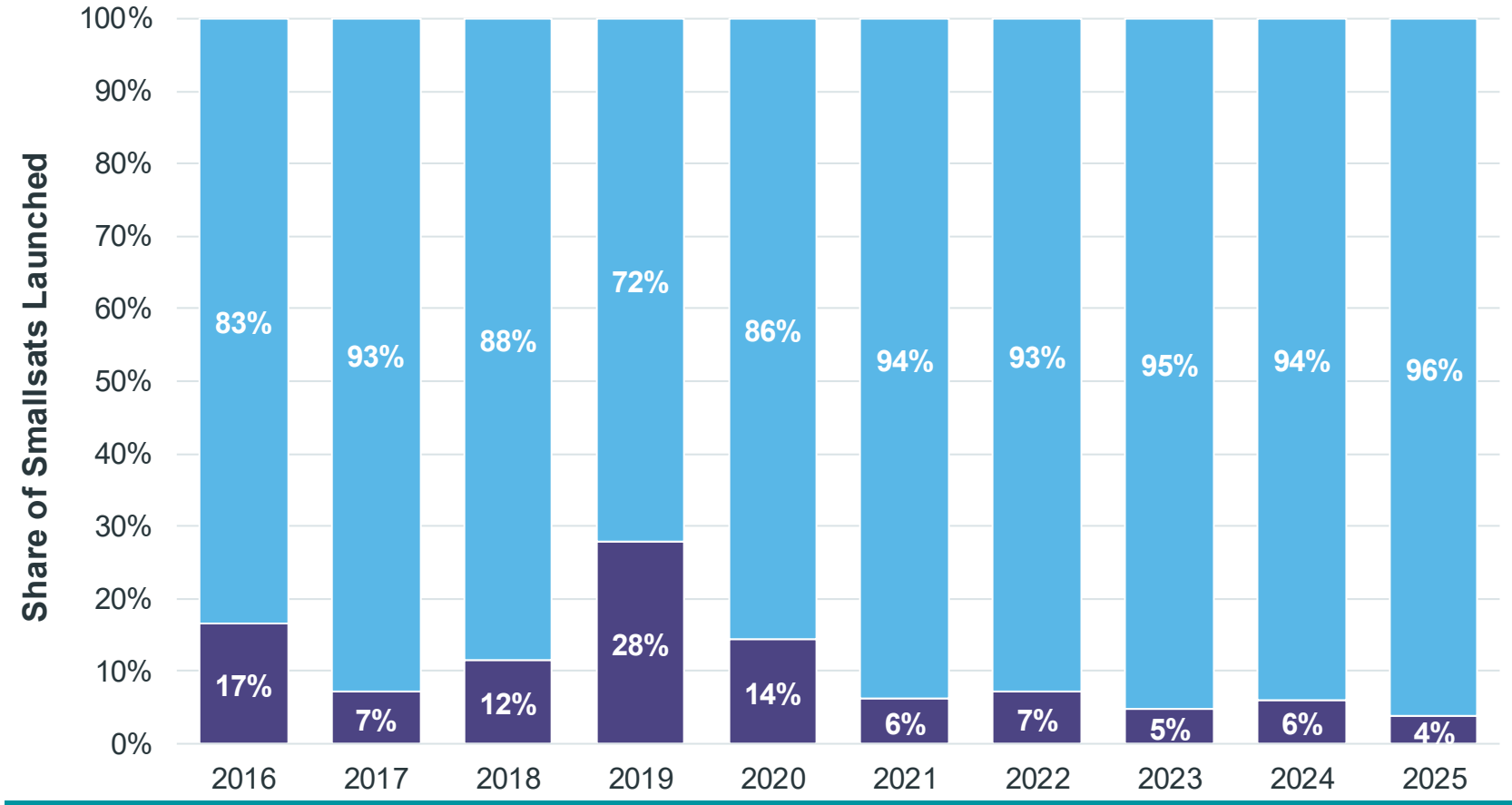
250 of 325 orbital launches (2024: 188)
Launches with at least one smallsat

305 different operators (2024: 222)

4% launched on small or micro launch vehicles (2024: 6%)

Smallsat Launch Trends

Share of Smallsats 2016 – 2025, by Launch Vehicle Category

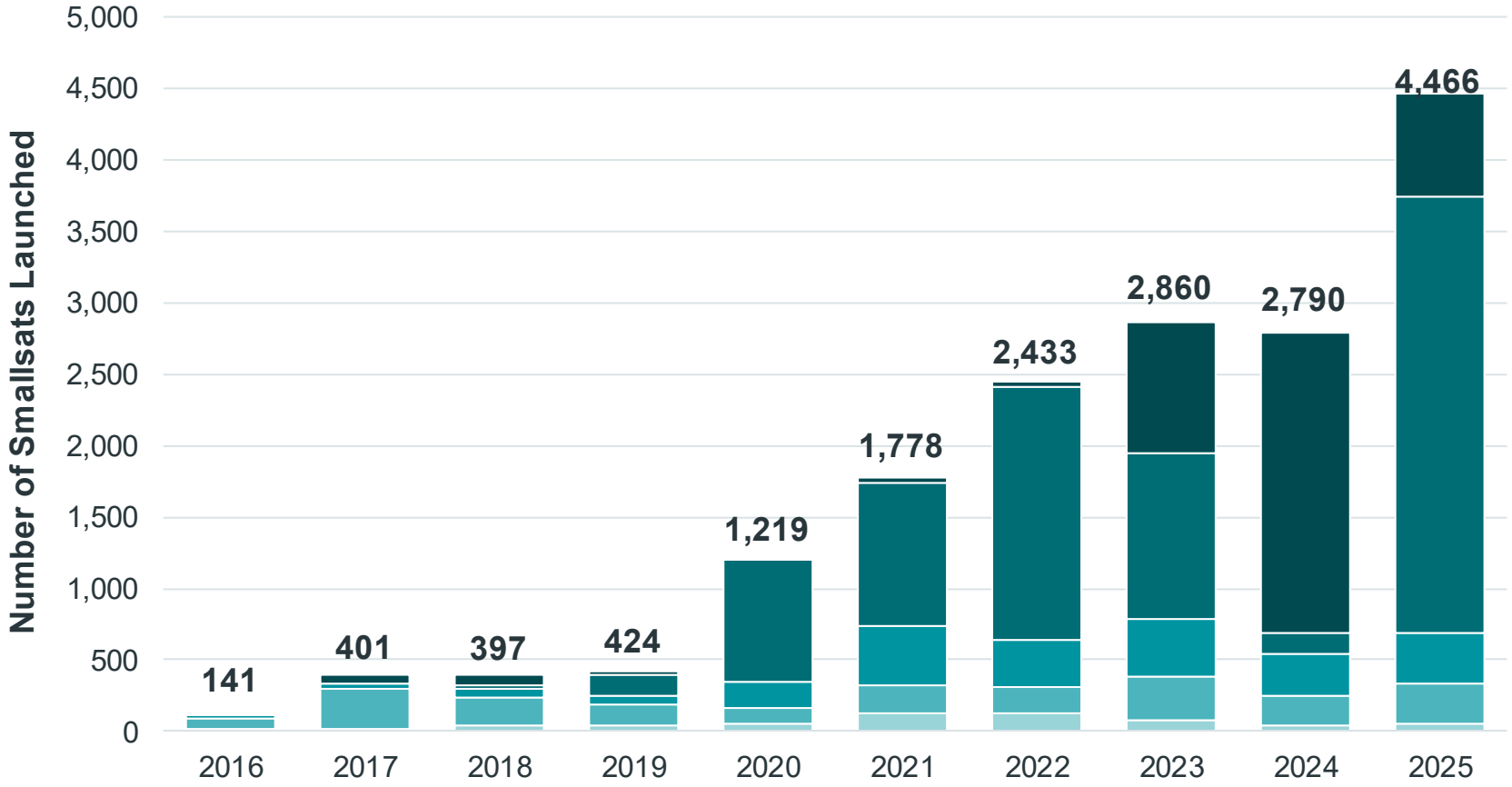


Launch Vehicle Category	Capacity (kg) to LEO
Micro	≤500
Small	500 – 2,268
Medium	2,269 – 5,443
Intermediate	5,444 – 11,340
Heavy	11,341 – 30,000
Super Heavy	>30,000

Share of smallsats launched on micro and small vehicles in 2025 decreased, despite variety of new small launch vehicles

Smallsats in Context

Smallsats 2016 – 2025, by Mass Class

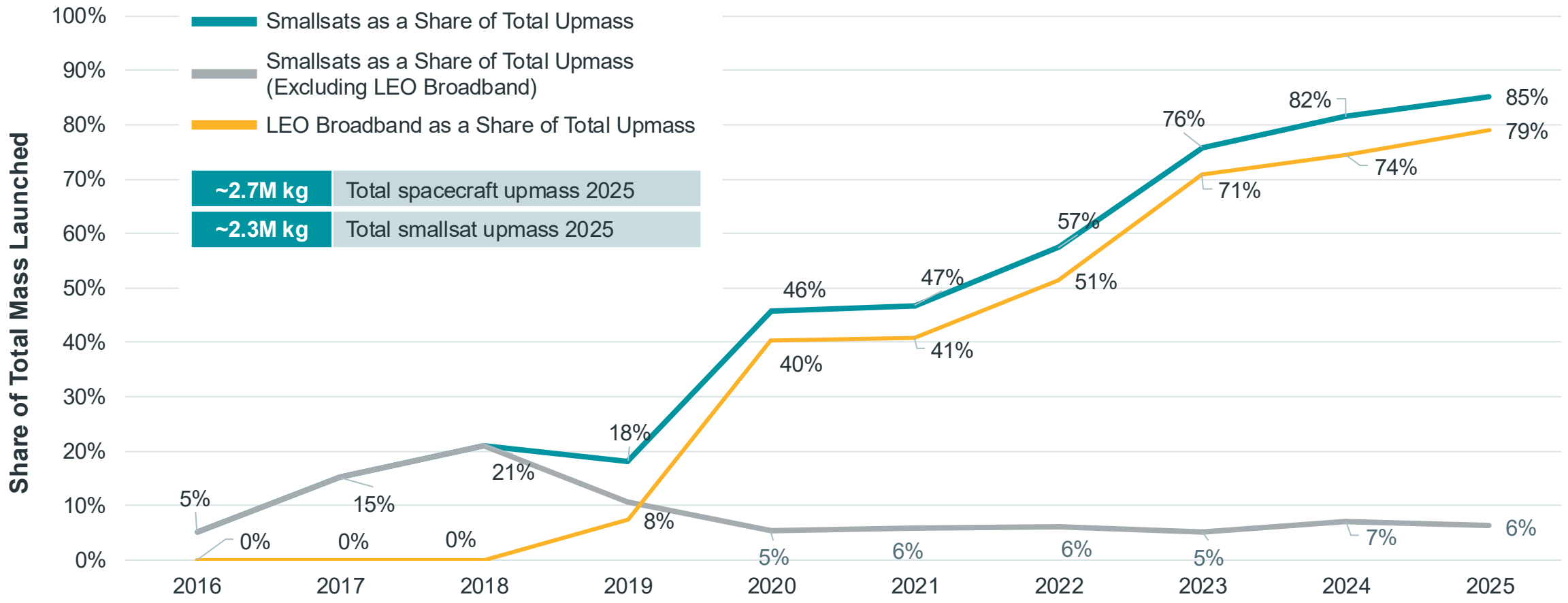


Mass Class Name	Kilograms (kg)
Small	601 – 1,200
Mini	201 – 600
Micro	11 – 200
Nano	1.1 – 10
Pico	0.1 – 1
Femto	0.01 – 0.09

Large share of mini and small class systems driven by LEO Broadband (BB) Megaconstellations. 2025 increase in mini mass class driven by Starlink shift to smaller satellites

Smallsat Mass Trends

Smallsats as a Share of Total Upmass 2016 – 2025



Excluding LEO Broadband, smallsats have accounted for <10% of total upmass since 2019