

# How ESA's Third Party Missions support European Commercialisation

Third Party Missions (TPMs) consist of Earth Observation (EO) satellites that are owned by commercial and public organisations around the world.

ESA has specific agreements with the organisations to promote the availability of their data, to support research and application development. In parallel, the activities of the TPM programme help boost commercialisation in Europe

## New space growth

Small, innovative privately owned companies emerging from the new space ecosystem are having an increasing impact on the European EO industry.

ESA's TPM programme is capitalising on – and encouraging – commercial advances in remote sensing by working with these emerging new space start-ups and its primary objective is to support companies from ESA Member States

## Expanding collection

More and more missions onboarded as TPMs are taken from the new space ecosystem. Commercial missions recently joining the TPM portfolio include:

- GHGSat
- ICEYE
- Planet SuperDove
- SkySat
- Pléiades Neo
- Vision-1
- Spire
- SatelliteVu
- Unseenlabs



## Status 2023

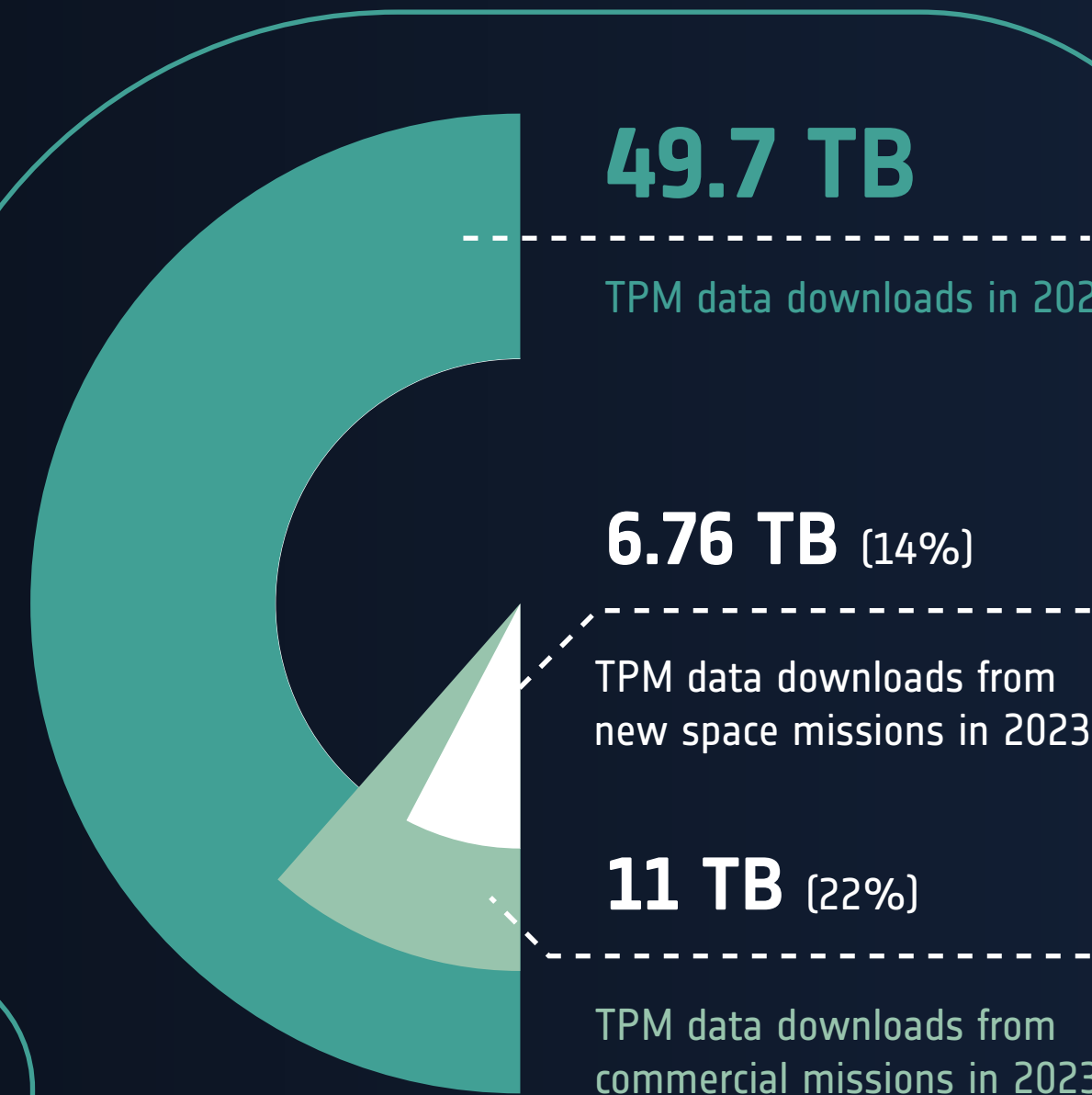
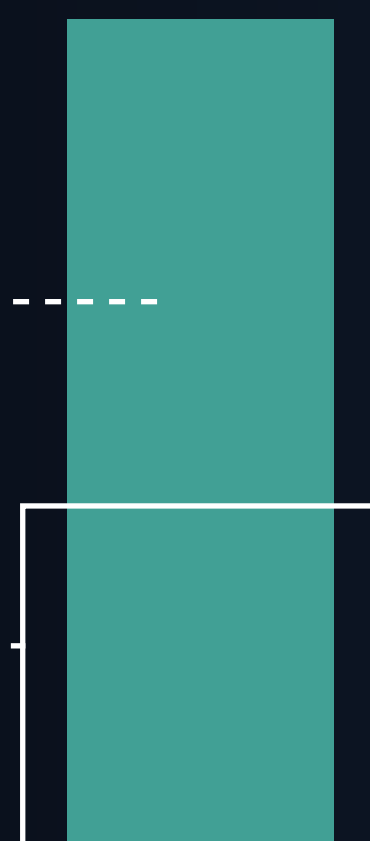
Overall number of instruments **≈ 80**

**68**

Total TPM missions

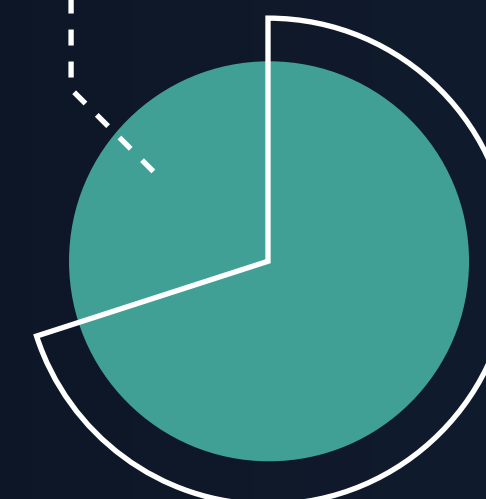
**28**

European missions



**2, 212**

Users who downloaded TPM data from the dissemination system in 2023



**≈ 70%**

European users of TPM data

## Innovation

New space companies create benefits by developing innovative Earth observation technologies that empower new applications. ESA acts as initial customer of the data allowing the data to be promoted within the European user community.

TPM data can also be used by companies supported by ESA's Business Incubation programmes

## Data quality

Inclusion in ESA's TPM programme demonstrates that data providers meet the agency's high data quality standards. User trust in this quality helps commercial providers secure further business and growth

## Synergy

New space missions included in the TPM programme create opportunity for synergy with institutional missions (such as Sentinels, ESA Earth Explorers & Scout missions) to meet the needs of user communities from different sectors

**FACT BOX**

TPM programme has supported **35 start-ups** since April 2022 to date