

4G, which many of us use to connect to the Internet today. But it also requires towns and cities to set up a much higher number of small cells, or short-range transmitters, to provide the same geographic coverage as 4G.

WHAT WILL IT MEAN FOR ME?

5G promises to bring faster speeds and lower latency—the time it takes data to move back and forth—meaning the apps and services you use, like video chat and mobile gaming, will be much quicker. It could also enable disruptive new wireless innovations, potentially powering the next big tech unicorn like Uber or Snapchat.

HOW MUCH FASTER IS 5G?

Networks will be about 20 times faster than 4G networks on average, meaning you could download *Avengers: Endgame* in the time it takes Thanos to snap his fingers. Latency could be as low as 1 ms, compared with 50 ms for 4G.

and 2020, including Atlanta, Denver and Washington.

5G coverage within cities may be limited at first, however, with only certain neighborhoods getting access.

WHO ELSE WILL BENEFIT FROM 5G?

The technology could revolutionize businesses from agriculture to manufacturing. Factory owners could use it to control their robots. Farmers could use it to keep tabs on autonomous smart tractors. Carmakers see it as a key technology for self-driving cars, helping such vehicles “talk” to one another about road conditions, hazards and more. And like other groundbreaking technologies before it, 5G promises to unleash a wave of innovative new startups and services we can't foresee.

ARE THERE ANY DOWNSIDES TO 5G?

Privacy advocates worry that 5G could make it easier for law enforcement and