iPhone 5 Sales Top 2 Million on First Weekend in China

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Apple [2] has sold more than 2 million units of the iPhone 5 [3] in China [4], setting a new record for best first-weekend sales in the country.

The Cupertino, Calif. company made the announcement [5] Monday, just three days after the iPhone's Chinese launch on Dec. 14.

"Customer response to iPhone 5 in China has been incredible," Apple CEO Tim Cook [6] said in a statement. "China is a very important market for us and customers there cannot wait to get their hands on Apple products."

The news is a turnaround for Apple, which saw its stock drop 4% in early trading on Friday [7], falling to as low as $509 a share over concerns about low demand for the iPhone 5 in China. Locals responded to the smartphone with less enthusiasm than in previous years, according to the the *Wall Street Journal* [8].

"Apple's flagship store in Beijing's upscale Sanlitun shopping district began selling the iPhone 5 for the first time on Friday in what was arguably the least eventful launch of an Apple device in the company's four-year history in the Chinese capital."

Three days after the iPhone 5's initial launch on Sept. 21, Apple announced that it sold more than 5 million units of the device [9], which was then available in the U.S., Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore and the UK.

The company also reported that demand for the iPhone 5 exceeded its "initial supply." Apple's flagship smartphone, which features a 4-inch Retina display, is its thinnest and lightest ever.

Considering earlier negative reports, are you surprised by Apple's successful iPhone 5 launch in China?

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