



UK Broadband Speedtest Results May 2009

This press release gives the aggregated speedtest results from tests carried out by site users at www.broadband.co.uk for May 2009.

Average download & upload speeds - May 2009		
ISP	Average Download speed (Mbps)	Average Upload Speed (Mbps)
AOL	2.276	0.314
Be and O2*	5.778	0.758
BT	2.781	0.328
Eclipse	2.668	0.401
Orange	3.136	0.404
Plusnet	3.167	0.349
Sky	3.525	0.405
Talk Talk	3.705	0.491
Tiscali	2.927	0.350
Virgin Media	5.874	0.451
All providers	4.248	0.431

** Note that although O2 and Be share a common infrastructure they are separate trading entities*

Average broadband speeds continue to improve with the average increasing by 0.111Mbps during May to reach 4.248Mbps.

During April 2009 Virgin Media have managed to retain their lead as the UK's fastest broadband supplier but only by the narrowest of margins from O2.

Orange broadband lose their position as the fastest of those providers whose best deals are in the "Up to 8Mbps" category being beaten into second place by Plusnet.



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Average download speeds split by time of day – May 2009			
ISP	Overnight (00:00 to 08:00) Average download speed (Mbps)	Daytime (08:00 to 18:00) Average download speed (Mbps)	Evening (18:00 to 00:00) Average download speed (Mbps)
AOL	2.160	2.398	2.107
Be and O2*	6.363	5.709	5.716
BT	3.163	2.933	2.431
Eclipse	2.929	2.794	2.278
Orange	3.488	3.065	3.157
Plusnet	3.899	3.118	2.758
Sky	3.899	3.547	3.404
Talk Talk	3.579	3.669	3.770
Tiscali	3.190	2.959	2.839
Virgin Media	6.683	6.154	5.377
All providers	4.790	4.350	4.000

Our average speed by time of day shows how the average broadband speed is heavily influenced by the time of day (and therefore likely level of network congestion).

The overnight levels show a significantly higher average speed than the evening peak period, with daytime use between the two. This clearly shows the effects of network congestion on the average broadband connection at peak hours.

O2 have again taken the top slot in the peak evening slot. For the first time ever we see an average over all 3 time slots of 4Mbps or more.



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Percentage of maximum speed achieved by Suppliers

A new metric we are introducing this month is a comparison of providers by how much of the maximum speed that's available they achieve. When a speedtest is carried out with the user providing a postcode and a provider we check the maximum ADSL Max speed available and compare it with the speedtest result. This allows us to compile the following table:

ISP	Percentage of maximum ADSL Max speed achieved over all tests	Change from last month
AOL	54%	+2%
Be	118%	+6%
BT	56%	-1%
Eclipse	69%	+20%
O2	120%	+13%
Orange	53%	-4%
Plusnet	60%	+12%
Sky	71%	-3%
TalkTalk	80%	+6%
Tiscali	58%	-9%
Virgin Media – ADSL	91%	+3%
Virgin Media – fibre optic	120%	-4%
All suppliers	80%	+3%

As this test relies on users to select their own suppliers we can differentiate between O2 and Be, and also Virgin Media users using ADSL or fibre optic connections.

As some suppliers use ADSL2+ or fibre optic technology then they can achieve speed ratios of over 100% and this is to be expected.



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About the broadband.co.uk speedtest results

- Our results are taken from our website users performing speedtests using our speedchecker at <http://www.broadband.co.uk/broadband-speed-test/>
- We record tens of thousands of speedtests every month.
- Unlike other speedtest services we record the Internet Service Provider (ISP) by IP address making our ISP recording very accurate rather than relying on self selection
- We pick out the following ISP's for reporting every month
 - AOL
 - Be Broadband and O2 (O2 and Be are separate trading entities; however they share a common infrastructure)
 - BT
 - Eclipse
 - Orange
 - Plusnet
 - Sky
 - TalkTalk
 - Tiscali
 - Virgin

About [broadband.co.uk](http://www.broadband.co.uk)

- We are one of the original broadband information and comparison sites having been launched in 2004
- With well over 1 million visitors per year we are the UK's leading source of broadband information and advice
- We provide beginners guides to all areas of broadband along with discussion forums, speedtester and broadband postcode lookup functionality
- We provide a unique free "Ask the expert" service where our broadband expert answers any query related to broadband, technical, comparison and related

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