

UK Broadband Speed Test Results December 2015

This press release gives the aggregated speed test results from tests carried out by site users at www.broadband.co.uk for December 2015.

Fixed line home broadband providers – overview

Average fixed line download & upload speeds – December 2015		
ISP	Average Download Speed (Mbps)	Average Upload Speed (Mbps)
BT	17.582	4.419
EE	9.246	2.152
Plusnet	12.566	2.851
Sky	10.924	2.47
TalkTalk	12.799	1.858
Virgin Media	46.567	5.668
All fixed line providers	20.557	3.683

Please note: We've improved our speed test so that users of tablets and mobile phones can now run tests. As a result, the average speeds have shifted down a little due to the tendency for WiFi connections to test slower than fixed line, especially at greater distances from the router.

Virgin Media retain first place, with average download speeds remaining stable at 46.57Mbps. BT are in second place, with download speeds also stable at 17.58Mbps. TalkTalk move up into third place, with download speeds holding stable at 12.8Mbps. Plusnet drop down to fourth place, with speeds falling again by 0.59Mbps to 12.6Mbps. Sky remain in fifth place, with download speeds decreasing by 1.1Mbps to 10.92Mbps.

Overall, the average download speed across all fixed line providers has held stable since last month.

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Consumer mobile broadband providers

Average mobile download & upload speeds – December 2015		
ISP	Average Download Speed (Mbps)	Average Upload Speed (Mbps)
EE Mobile	17.553	3.865
O2 Mobile	11.78	2.529
Three Mobile	9.841	2.56
Vodafone Mobile	13.755	2.82
All consumer mobile	13.305	3.069

As our new speed test supports users of mobile devices, we're now able to provide information about average speeds for mobile broadband providers.

Results from December place EE in first place with download speeds averaging at 17.55Mbps, increasing by 1.1Mbps since last month. Vodafone are in second place with a slight fall in download speeds to 13.76Mbps. O2 rose in average download speed by 1.4Mbps to 11.78Mbps, while Three remain in fourth place with average speeds stable at 9.84Mbps.

Overall, the average download speed across all mobile broadband providers was 13.31Mbps, a 0.96Mbps rise compared to last month, while average mobile broadband upload speeds are stable at 3.07Mbps.

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Fixed line home broadband providers – time of day

Average fixed line download speeds by time of day – December 2015			
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)
BT	18.637	17.589	17.364
EE	9.717	9.337	9.038
Plusnet	14.212	12.319	12.59
Sky	11.717	11.036	10.636
TalkTalk	14.113	12.903	12.36
Virgin Media	51.214	49.208	42.434
All fixed line providers	22.853	20.761	19.816

When the fixed line providers' average download speed is split to show separate figures for overnight, daytime and evening tests, we see how download speed is heavily influenced by the time of day.

For providers such as Virgin Media and Plusnet, the overnight level shows significantly higher average speeds than the evening peak periods. This clearly shows the effects of network congestion on the average broadband connection at peak hours.

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Supplemental fixed line broadband providers

Average download & upload speeds (supplemental) – December 2015		
ISP	Average Download Speed (Mbps)	Average Upload Speed (Mbps)
Post Office	2.553	0.329
Zen	21.025	5.943
Daisy	17.382	5.429
Demon Broadband	4.91	1.443
Eclipse Internet	10.371	2.547
KC	20.024	7.73
Vodafone Broadband	20.695	6.653
BT Wi-Fi (aka BT Fon)	3.986	1.376
Hyperoptic	102.091	91.134
Entanet	14.539	5.578
IDNet	16.726	3.351
Quickline	12.831	12.32

Here we list additional fixed line broadband providers with fewer customers making use of our speed test. All providers listed have sufficient test numbers across the month to make average speeds statistically significant, but not enough tests to be split by time of day. The lower down the list, the less confident we are about the overall accuracy of the average results.

It should be noted that some of these ISPs primarily supply broadband to the business market, and so may utilize technologies not available to the vast majority of broadband users. Home providers tend to have a peak of test numbers in the evening while primarily business providers, such as Zen or Daisy have the greatest number during the day time.

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About the broadband.co.uk speed test results

- Our results are taken from our website users performing speed tests using our speed checker at <http://www.broadband.co.uk/broadband-speed-test/>
- We record tens of thousands of speed tests every month.
- Unlike other speed test services we record the Internet Service Provider (ISP) by IP address making our ISP recording very accurate rather than relying on self selection. Certain ISPs resell their services as a wholesale or white label product, in these cases the wholesale ISP is matched.
- We pick out the following 'big 6' fixed line ISPs for detailed reporting every month:
 - BT
 - EE (excluding 4G mobile broadband)
 - Plusnet
 - Sky
 - TalkTalk
 - Virgin Media
- We now also report on the following mobile broadband providers:
 - EE
 - O2
 - Three
 - Vodafone

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

- Our broadband price comparison is accredited by Ofcom as open, honest and transparent.
- 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 one of the UK's leading sources of broadband information and advice
- We provide beginners guides to all areas of broadband along with detailed buyers guides to the major broadband providers, speed tester and broadband postcode look-up 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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