



## UK Broadband Speedtest Results February 2009

This press release gives the aggregated speedtest results from tests carried out by site users at [www.broadband.co.uk](http://www.broadband.co.uk) for February 2009.

<b>Average download &amp; upload speeds - February 2009</b>		
<b>ISP</b>	<b>Average Download speed (Mbps)</b>	<b>Average Upload Speed (Mbps)</b>
AOL	2.150	0.305
Be and O2*	5.735	0.755
BT	2.401	0.318
Eclipse	2.851	0.393
Orange	3.118	0.408
Plusnet	2.869	0.363
Sky	3.519	0.398
Talk Talk	3.101	0.419
Tiscali	2.446	0.350
Virgin Media	6.127	0.507
<b>All providers</b>	<b>3.833</b>	<b>0.415</b>

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

During January 2009 Virgin Media have held their average speed steady at just over 6Mbps retaining their lead as the UK's fastest broadband supplier. O2 have pulled back by just under 0.5Mbps to keep the pressure on Virgin for the top spot.

Orange broadband hold their position as the fastest of those providers whose best deals are in the "Up to 8Mbps" category,

The average over all tests was a download speed of 3.833Mbps which is the fastest average we have ever recorded (a rise of 0.830Mbps on February 2008).



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<b>Average download speeds split by time of day – February 2009</b>			
<b>ISP</b>	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	2.805	2.251	1.922
Be and O2*	5.965	6.060	5.353
BT	2.953	2.711	1.903
Eclipse	3.334	2.696	3.059
Orange	3.323	3.094	3.117
Plusnet	3.255	3.076	2.496
Sky	4.093	3.548	3.374
Talk Talk	3.591	3.301	2.784
Tiscali	3.371	2.758	1.897
Virgin Media	6.921	6.639	5.413
<b>All providers</b>	4.680	3.040	3.410

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.

Virgin Media have held on to top spot in all three categories, but O2 have improved on their January results and are catching up fast.

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## Connection Speeds

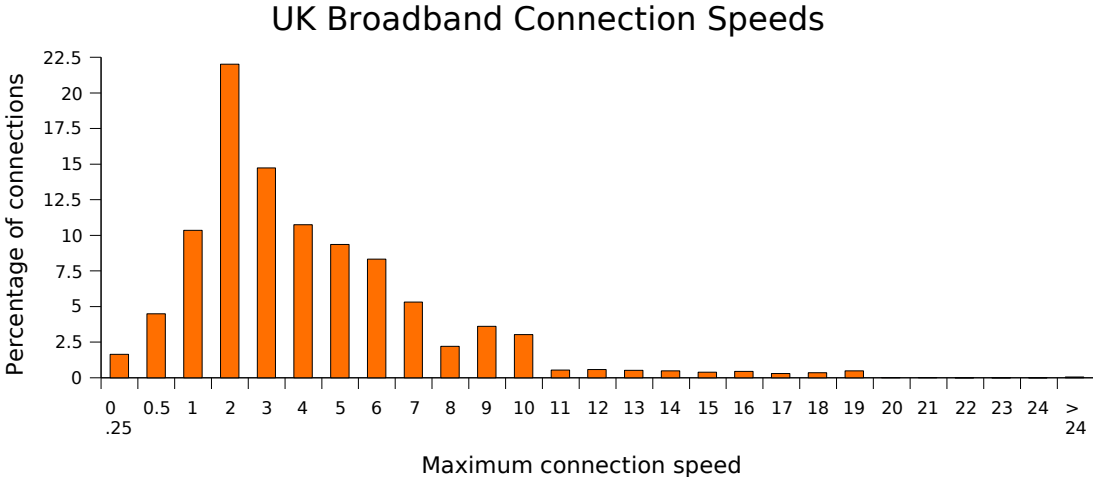
With the Interim Digital Britain report released by Lord Carter suggesting a target Universal Service Obligation of a minimum speed of 2Mbps we thought we would look at how many broadband users currently receive speeds in excess of 2Mbps.

What we found was that 38.52% of users currently have speeds less than the 2Mbps target.

50.68% of users enjoy speeds of between 2Mbps and 8Mbps.

Only 10.79% of users have access to connections in excess of 8Mbps.

The full results are shown in the graph below:





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### **About the [broadband.co.uk](http://www.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.jsp>
- 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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