

UK broadband speed test results February 2019

This press release gives the aggregated speed test results from the hundreds of thousands of tests carried out by users of broadband.co.uk during February 2019.

Fixed line home broadband providers

Average fixed line download & upload speeds (Mbps) – February 2019						
Rank	Was	Broadband Provider	Average Download		Average Upload	
			Speed	Change	Speed	Change
-	-	All home broadband	32.49	+1.05	7.06	+0.34
1	1	Virgin Media	67.06	+1.17	7.73	-0.12
2	2	Vodafone Home	33.84	-0.12	9.22	+0.03
3	3	BT	30.49	+0.99	7.24	+0.25
4	4	Sky / NOW Broadband	26	+1.72	7	+0.67
5	5	Daisy / SSE	22.56	-0.07	7.74	+0.37
6	6	Plusnet / John Lewis	22.56	+0.23	5.14	+0.01
7 ▲	8	TalkTalk	21.2	+1.27	4.93	+0.32
8 ▼	7	EE Home	20.81	-0.27	5.16	-0.1

Overall, the average download speeds across all fixed line providers increased by 1.05Mbps to 32.49Mbps since last month, with upload speeds increasing by 0.34Mbps to 7.06Mbps.

Consumer mobile broadband providers

Average mobile download & upload speeds (Mbps) – February 2019						
Rank	Was	Broadband Provider	Average Download		Average Upload	
			Speed	Change	Speed	Change
-	-	All mobile broadband	21.13	-0.82	6.42	-0.44
1	1	EE Mobile	27.01	-0.08	6.89	-0.38
2	2	Vodafone Mobile	23.31	+1.48	5.89	+0.37
3	3	Three Mobile	17.89	-1.24	6.04	-0.28
4	4	O2 Mobile	15.11	+1.08	4.4	+0.14

Overall, the average download speeds across all mobile broadband providers decreased by -0.83Mbps to 21.13Mbps since last month, with upload speeds decreasing by -0.44Mbps to 6.42Mbps.

UK broadband speed test results February 2019

Combined home and mobile broadband rankings

Average broadband download & upload speeds (Mbps) – February 2019						
Rank	Was	Broadband Provider	Average Download		Average Upload	
			Speed	Change	Speed	Change
-	-	All home broadband	32.49	+1.05	7.06	+0.34
-	-	All mobile broadband	21.13	-0.82	6.42	-0.44
1	1	Virgin Media	67.06	+1.17	7.73	-0.12
2	2	Vodafone Home	33.84	-0.12	9.22	+0.03
3	3	BT	30.49	+0.99	7.24	+0.25
4	4	EE Mobile	27.01	-0.08	6.89	-0.38
5	5	Sky / NOW Broadband	26	+1.72	7	+0.67
6 ▲	8	Vodafone Mobile	23.31	+1.48	5.89	+0.37
7 ▼	6	Daisy / SSE	22.56	-0.07	7.74	+0.37
8 ▼	7	Plusnet / John Lewis	22.56	+0.23	5.14	+0.01
9 ▲	10	TalkTalk	21.2	+1.27	4.93	+0.32
10 ▼	9	EE Home	20.81	-0.27	5.16	-0.1
11	11	Three Mobile	17.89	-1.24	6.04	-0.28
12	12	O2 Mobile	15.11	+1.08	4.4	+0.14

Overall speed performance of consumer mobile broadband is roughly comparable to that of many fixed line broadband providers. However, only 3.99% of the speed tests performed in February 2019 took place over a mobile broadband connection.

While the availability of the fastest mobile data transfer protocols varies with location, and some tests will be performed on 3G or even 2.5G GPRS connections, the same is true for fixed line broadband providers whose flagship products may not be available in rural and remote areas, or may not be adopted by consumers preferring cheaper speed-limited alternatives.

UK broadband speed test results February 2019

Combined UK broadband rankings by upload speed

Average broadband upload & download speeds (Mbps) – February 2019						
Rank	Was	Broadband Provider	Average Upload		Average Download	
			Speed	Change	Speed	Change
-	-	All home broadband	7.06	+0.34	32.49	+1.05
-	-	All mobile broadband	6.42	-0.44	21.13	-0.82
1	1	Vodafone Home	9.22	+0.03	33.84	-0.12
2 ▲	3	Daisy / SSE	7.74	+0.37	22.56	-0.07
3 ▼	2	Virgin Media	7.73	-0.12	67.06	+1.17
4 ▲	5	BT	7.24	+0.25	30.49	+0.99
5 ▲	6	Sky / NOW Broadband	7	+0.67	26	+1.72
6 ▼	4	EE Mobile	6.89	-0.38	27.01	-0.08
7	7	Three Mobile	6.04	-0.28	17.89	-1.24
8	8	Vodafone Mobile	5.89	+0.37	23.31	+1.48
9	9	EE Home	5.16	-0.1	20.81	-0.27
10	10	Plusnet / John Lewis	5.14	+0.01	22.56	+0.23
11	11	TalkTalk	4.93	+0.32	21.2	+1.27
12	12	O2 Mobile	4.4	+0.14	15.11	+1.08

While most UK broadband providers place much less marketing emphasis on upload speeds, this is an increasingly important factor in broadband satisfaction. As more and more storage moves to the cloud, being unable to quickly save or sync to servers on the internet increasingly impacts the user experience in apps. This is even more important to those who work from home, or who create online video content.

In February 2019 average fixed line broadband download speed was 4.6 times faster than upload speed, while mobile broadband downloads averaged at 3.29 times the speed achieved for mobile uploads.

The rollout and increasing adoption of full fibre broadband services will see the gap between download and upload performance shrink, especially from providers offering symmetric services.

UK broadband speed test results February 2019

Consumer broadband download speeds - time of day

Average download speeds (Mbps) split by time of day – February 2019				
Broadband Provider	Overnight (00:00 to 07:59)	Daytime (08:00 to 17:59)	Evening (18:00 to 23:59)	Overall (00:00 to 23:59)
All home broadband	34.17	32.29	32.43	32.49
All mobile broadband	26.7	21.04	20.04	21.13
Virgin Media	68.68	67.32	66.42	67.06
Vodafone Home	37.2	34.96	31.87	33.84
BT	34.33	30.11	30.31	30.49
EE Mobile	40.06	25.88	26.36	27.01
Sky / NOW Broadband	28.57	26.03	25.43	26
Plusnet / John Lewis	23.23	22.55	22.38	22.56
TalkTalk	21.5	21.27	21.03	21.2
EE Home	20.01	20.02	22.15	20.81
Three Mobile	21.77	18.82	15.48	17.89

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

Fixed line broadband advertised speeds are now based on the speed achieved by 50% of customers during peak evening hours of 8pm to 10pm.

UK broadband speed test results February 2019

Supplemental UK broadband providers

Average download & upload speeds (Mbps) – February 2019		
Broadband Provider	Average Download	Average Upload
TalkTalk Business	20.76	5.44
Post Office (rural/remote)	10.79	2.16
Zen	37.62	12.71
Virgin Media Business	72.32	24.47
Eclipse Internet	18.58	7.34
KCOM	75.85	19.23
Gigaclear	114.33	99.45
BT Wi-Fi (aka BT Fon)	9.38	4.13
Entanet	35.15	21.91
Hyperoptic	63.61	51.9

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 supplemental ISPs, such as Zen, primarily supply broadband to the business market, and so may utilize technologies not available to the vast majority of home broadband users.

UK broadband speed test results February 2019

Expanded UK broadband download speed rankings

Average download & upload speeds (Mbps) – February 2019			
Rank	Broadband Provider	Average Download	Average Upload
1	Gigaclear	114.33	99.45
2	KCOM	75.85	19.23
3	Virgin Media Business	72.32	24.47
4	Virgin Media	67.06	7.73
5	Hyperoptic	63.61	51.9
6	Zen	37.62	12.71
7	Entanet	35.15	21.91
8	Vodafone Home	33.84	9.22
9	BT	30.49	7.24
10	EE Mobile	27.01	6.89
11	Sky / NOW Broadband	26	7
12	Vodafone Mobile	23.31	5.89
13	Daisy / SSE	22.56	7.74
14	Plusnet / John Lewis	22.56	5.14
15	TalkTalk	21.2	4.93
16	EE Home	20.81	5.16
17	TalkTalk Business	20.76	5.44
18	Eclipse Internet	18.58	7.34
19	Three Mobile	17.89	6.04
20	O2 Mobile	15.11	4.4
21	Post Office (rural/remote)	10.79	2.16
22	BT Wi-Fi (aka BT Fon)	9.38	4.13

UK broadband speed test results February 2019

Expanded UK broadband upload speed rankings

Average upload & download speeds (Mbps) – February 2019			
Rank	Broadband Provider	Average Upload	Average Download
1	Gigaclear	99.45	114.33
2	Hyperoptic	51.9	63.61
3	Virgin Media Business	24.47	72.32
4	Entanet	21.91	35.15
5	KCOM	19.23	75.85
6	Zen	12.71	37.62
7	Vodafone Home	9.22	33.84
8	Daisy / SSE	7.74	22.56
9	Virgin Media	7.73	67.06
10	Eclipse Internet	7.34	18.58
11	BT	7.24	30.49
12	Sky / NOW Broadband	7	26
13	EE Mobile	6.89	27.01
14	Three Mobile	6.04	17.89
15	Vodafone Mobile	5.89	23.31
16	TalkTalk Business	5.44	20.76
17	EE Home	5.16	20.81
18	Plusnet / John Lewis	5.14	22.56
19	TalkTalk	4.93	21.2
20	O2 Mobile	4.4	15.11
21	BT Wi-Fi (aka BT Fon)	4.13	9.38
22	Post Office (rural/remote)	2.16	10.79

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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 <https://www.broadband.co.uk/broadband-speedtest/>
- We record hundreds 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 8' fixed line ISPs for detailed reporting every month:
 - **BT wholesale network** (used by several suppliers outside their own low cost network areas)
 - **Daisy wholesale network** (used by SSE and Fleur)
 - **EE** (excluding 4G mobile broadband)
 - **Plusnet wholesale network** (used by John Lewis)
 - **Sky** (also sold as NOW Broadband)
 - **TalkTalk wholesale network** (used by suppliers such as Utility Warehouse, Post Office Broadband and First Utility)
 - **Virgin Media**
 - **Vodafone**
- As our test is one of the few that will run on mobile devices and tablets, we're also able to report on the following mobile broadband networks:
 - **EE** (used by Virgin Mobile, Plusnet Mobile, Asda Mobile and Phone Co-Op)
 - **O2** (used by Tesco Mobile, Sky Mobile, TalkTalk Mobile and giffgaff)
 - **Three** (used by Superdrug Mobile, TPO Mobile and FreedomPop)
 - **Vodafone** (used by Talkmobile)

About 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 millions of visitors each 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 free advice service where our broadband expert answers queries related to broadband, technical, comparison and related

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