

UK broadband speed test results July 2020

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 July 2020.

Fixed line home broadband providers

Average fixed line download & upload speeds (Mbps) – July 2020						
Rank	Was	Broadband Provider	Average Download		Average Upload	
			Speed	Change	Speed	Change
-	-	All home broadband	42.94	+2.2	9.34	+0.47
1	1	Virgin Media	88.01	+4.29	13.23	+0.29
2	2	BT	41.7	+2.26	9.91	+0.56
3	3	Vodafone Home	40.42	+1.01	11.63	+0.89
4 ▲	5	EE Home	27.75	+2.97	6.52	+0.54
5 ▼	4	Sky / NOW Broadband	27.15	+1.88	6.92	+0.46
6	6	TalkTalk	25.59	+1.84	6.21	+0.68
7 ▲	8	Plusnet / John Lewis	22.67	+0.02	5.34	+0.05
8 ▼	7	Daisy / SSE	16.61	-6.62	5.66	-2.97

Overall, the average download speeds across all fixed line providers increased by 2.21Mbps to 42.94Mbps since last month, with upload speeds increasing by 0.48Mbps to 9.34Mbps.

Consumer mobile broadband providers

Average mobile download & upload speeds (Mbps) – July 2020						
Rank	Was	Broadband Provider	Average Download		Average Upload	
			Speed	Change	Speed	Change
-	-	All mobile broadband	22.18	-0.45	5.93	+0.08
1	1	EE Mobile	29.63	+0.51	7.45	+0.29
2	2	Vodafone Mobile	23.73	-0.08	6.38	+0.19
3	3	Three Mobile	17.91	-1.01	4.58	-0.03
4	4	O2 Mobile	15.05	-0.6	3.82	-0.07

Overall, the average download speeds across all mobile broadband providers decreased by 0.45Mbps to 22.18Mbps since last month, with upload speeds remaining stable at 5.93Mbps.

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Combined home and mobile broadband rankings

Average broadband download & upload speeds (Mbps) – July 2020						
Rank	Was	Broadband Provider	Average Download		Average Upload	
			Speed	Change	Speed	Change
-	-	All home broadband	42.94	+2.2	9.34	+0.47
-	-	All mobile broadband	22.18	-0.45	5.93	+0.08
1	1	Virgin Media	88.01	+4.29	13.23	+0.29
2	2	BT	41.7	+2.26	9.91	+0.56
3	3	Vodafone Home	40.42	+1.01	11.63	+0.89
4	4	EE Mobile	29.63	+0.51	7.45	+0.29
5 ▲	6	EE Home	27.75	+2.97	6.52	+0.54
6 ▼	5	Sky / NOW Broadband	27.15	+1.88	6.92	+0.46
7 ▲	8	TalkTalk	25.59	+1.84	6.21	+0.68
8 ▼	7	Vodafone Mobile	23.73	-0.08	6.38	+0.19
9 ▲	10	Plusnet / John Lewis	22.67	+0.02	5.34	+0.05
10 ▲	11	Three Mobile	17.91	-1.01	4.58	-0.03
11 ▼	9	Daisy / SSE	16.61	-6.62	5.66	-2.97
12	12	O2 Mobile	15.05	-0.6	3.82	-0.07

Overall speed performance of consumer mobile broadband is roughly comparable to that of many fixed line broadband providers. However, only 7.1% of the speed tests performed in July 2020 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.

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Combined UK broadband rankings by upload speed

Average broadband upload & download speeds (Mbps) – July 2020						
Rank	Was	Broadband Provider	Average Upload		Average Download	
			Speed	Change	Speed	Change
-	-	All home broadband	9.34	+0.47	42.94	+2.2
-	-	All mobile broadband	5.93	+0.08	22.18	-0.45
1	1	Virgin Media	13.23	+0.29	88.01	+4.29
2	2	Vodafone Home	11.63	+0.89	40.42	+1.01
3	3	BT	9.91	+0.56	41.7	+2.26
4 ▲	5	EE Mobile	7.45	+0.29	29.63	+0.51
5 ▲	6	Sky / NOW Broadband	6.92	+0.46	27.15	+1.88
6 ▲	8	EE Home	6.52	+0.54	27.75	+2.97
7	7	Vodafone Mobile	6.38	+0.19	23.73	-0.08
8 ▲	9	TalkTalk	6.21	+0.68	25.59	+1.84
9 ▼	4	Daisy / SSE	5.66	-2.97	16.61	-6.62
10	10	Plusnet / John Lewis	5.34	+0.05	22.67	+0.02
11	11	Three Mobile	4.58	-0.03	17.91	-1.01
12	12	O2 Mobile	3.82	-0.07	15.05	-0.6

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 July 2020 average fixed line broadband download speed was 4.6 times faster than upload speed, while mobile broadband downloads averaged at 3.74 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.

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Consumer broadband download speeds - time of day

Average download speeds (Mbps) split by time of day – July 2020				
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	42.9	42.88	43.09	42.94
All mobile broadband	29.68	21.77	20.01	22.18
Virgin Media	88.52	88.04	87.76	88.01
BT	42.87	41.29	42.22	41.7
Vodafone Home	47.07	40.46	38.18	40.42
EE Mobile	38.18	28.45	29.19	29.63
EE Home	27.99	27.91	27.29	27.75
Sky / NOW Broadband	28.59	27.19	26.53	27.15
TalkTalk	26.76	25.7	24.83	25.59
Vodafone Mobile	39.31	20.58	23.27	23.73
Plusnet / John Lewis	23.37	22.27	23.35	22.67
Three Mobile	23.53	18.29	15.26	17.91

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.

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Supplemental UK broadband providers

Average download & upload speeds (Mbps) – July 2020		
Broadband Provider	Average Download	Average Upload
Zen	37.3	10.52
Post Office (rural/remote)	14.87	3.23
TalkTalk Business	25.43	7.22
Virgin Media Business	60.87	12.71
Eclipse/KCOM Business	21.8	4.91
Gigaclear	91.97	69.55
Hyperoptic	109.4	85.8
KCOM	75.51	18.42
Metronet UK	73.95	32.58
BT Business Broadband	53.5	9.62
BT Wi-Fi (aka BT Fon)	10.77	5.57

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.

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Expanded UK broadband download speed rankings

Average download & upload speeds (Mbps) – July 2020			
Rank	Broadband Provider	Average Download	Average Upload
1	Hyperoptic	109.4	85.8
2	Gigaclear	91.97	69.55
3	Virgin Media	88.01	13.23
4	KCOM	75.51	18.42
5	Metronet UK	73.95	32.58
6	Virgin Media Business	60.87	12.71
7	BT Business Broadband	53.5	9.62
8	BT	41.7	9.91
9	Vodafone Home	40.42	11.63
10	Zen	37.3	10.52
11	EE Mobile	29.63	7.45
12	EE Home	27.75	6.52
13	Sky / NOW Broadband	27.15	6.92
14	TalkTalk	25.59	6.21
15	TalkTalk Business	25.43	7.22
16	Vodafone Mobile	23.73	6.38
17	Plusnet / John Lewis	22.67	5.34
18	Eclipse/KCOM Business	21.8	4.91
19	Three Mobile	17.91	4.58
20	Daisy / SSE	16.61	5.66
21	O2 Mobile	15.05	3.82
22	Post Office (rural/remote)	14.87	3.23
23	BT Wi-Fi (aka BT Fon)	10.77	5.57

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Expanded UK broadband upload speed rankings

Average upload & download speeds (Mbps) – July 2020			
Rank	Broadband Provider	Average Upload	Average Download
1	Hyperoptic	85.8	109.4
2	Gigaclear	69.55	91.97
3	Metronet UK	32.58	73.95
4	KCOM	18.42	75.51
5	Virgin Media	13.23	88.01
6	Virgin Media Business	12.71	60.87
7	Vodafone Home	11.63	40.42
8	Zen	10.52	37.3
9	BT	9.91	41.7
10	BT Business Broadband	9.62	53.5
11	EE Mobile	7.45	29.63
12	TalkTalk Business	7.22	25.43
13	Sky / NOW Broadband	6.92	27.15
14	EE Home	6.52	27.75
15	Vodafone Mobile	6.38	23.73
16	TalkTalk	6.21	25.59
17	Daisy / SSE	5.66	16.61
18	BT Wi-Fi (aka BT Fon)	5.57	10.77
19	Plusnet / John Lewis	5.34	22.67
20	Eclipse/KCOM Business	4.91	21.8
21	Three Mobile	4.58	17.91
22	O2 Mobile	3.82	15.05
23	Post Office (rural/remote)	3.23	14.87

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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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