

UK Broadband Speed Test Results March 2016

This press release gives the aggregated speed test results from the hundreds of thousands of tests carried out by site users at www.broadband.co.uk during March 2016.

Fixed line home broadband providers – overview

Average fixed line download & upload speeds – March 2016		
ISP	Average Download Speed (Mbps)	Average Upload Speed (Mbps)
BT	17.641	4.498
EE	9.902	2.315
Plusnet	13.414	2.663
Post Office	2.593	0.342
Sky	11.217	2.574
TalkTalk	13.084	1.878
Virgin Media	46.946	5.902
All fixed line providers	20.414	3.725

Virgin Media retain first place, with average download speeds rising by 0.45Mbps to 46.95Mbps. BT are in second place, with download speeds remaining stable at 17.64Mbps. Plusnet are back in third place, with download speeds stable at 13.41Mbps. TalkTalk drop back to fourth place, with speeds dipping by 0.56Mb to 13.08Mbps. Sky remain in fifth place, with download speeds stable at 11.22Mbps.

Overall, the average download speed across all fixed line providers has remained stable since last month with the 20.41Mbps speed representing only a 0.18Mbps decrease, back to January's level. Upload speeds are also stable at 3.73Mbps, with a slight upwards trend since the start of the year.

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Consumer mobile broadband providers

Average consumer mobile download & upload speeds – March 2016		
ISP	Average Download Speed (Mbps)	Average Upload Speed (Mbps)
EE Mobile	18.708	4.262
O2 Mobile	12.859	3.088
Three Mobile	12.093	3.422
Vodafone Mobile	16.258	3.74
All consumer mobile	15.312	3.709

Unlike many other speed tests, our speed test supports users of mobile and tablet devices, and so we're able to provide information about average speeds for mobile broadband providers.

Results from March put EE in first place with average download speeds increasing by 0.81Mbps to 18.71Mbps. Vodafone remain in second place with a 1.5Mbps increase in download speeds to 16.26Mbps. O2 are still in third place with download speeds at 12.86Mbps, an increase of 0.33Mbps over last month, while Three are in fourth place with average speeds increasing by 1.43Mbps to 12.09Mbps.

Overall, the average download speed across all mobile broadband providers was 15.31Mbps, a 1.55Mbps increase compared to last month, while average mobile broadband upload speeds have increased by 0.55Mbps to 3.71Mbps.

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Fixed line home broadband providers – time of day

Average fixed line download speeds split by time of day – March 2016			
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	18.141	17.637	17.549
EE	10.897	9.833	9.777
Plusnet	14.388	13.24	13.448
Post Office	4.38	2.973	1.669
Sky	12.15	11.472	10.736
TalkTalk	14.009	12.993	13.036
Virgin Media	53.654	51.129	40.904
All fixed line providers	22.297	20.915	19.389

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, Sky and Post Office Broadband 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) – March 2016		
ISP	Average Download Speed (Mbps)	Average Upload Speed (Mbps)
Zen	16.517	5.165
Daisy	12.087	3.792
KC	12.935	2.31
Eclipse Internet	9.422	2.27
Vodafone Broadband	24.699	7.666
Demon Broadband	6.467	1.858
BT Wi-Fi (aka BT Fon)	4.596	1.947
Entanet	16.48	6.195
Hyperoptic	91.702	77.302
Relish	11.8	1.814

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](http://www.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 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 7' fixed line ISPs for detailed reporting every month:
 - BT
 - EE (excluding 4G mobile broadband)
 - Post Office
 - Plusnet
 - Sky
 - TalkTalk
 - Virgin Media
- 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 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 3 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 free "Ask the expert" service where our broadband expert answers any query related to broadband, technical, comparison and related

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