

Key Broadband Statistics (Facts & figures) - July 2004

Price:

Prices are now between £20 and £40/month. Some companies are asking less than £20, although some place a monthly usage limit.

Availability:

Around 15.1 million of UK households and around 70% of UK businesses have internet access (Source: [ONS](#)). There were 4.4 million broadband subscribers in the UK by end of June 2004. (Source: [Ofcom](#))

Coverage:

Around 90% of the population now have access to mainstream broadband services through DSL (87¹%), cable (46%) or fixed wireless access (13%). BT has rolled-out ADSL service over traditional copper loop to 3417 exchanges (Source: BT Wholesale). Powerline, one-way and two-way satellite access is also available throughout the UK. (Source: Ofcom)

Take-up:

At the end of June 2004, the UK had an estimated 4,450,300 high-speed broadband users, a figure increasing by approximately 50,000 a week. The UK is likely to pass the five million broadband subscriber milestone in late September 2004. There were also 2,794,000 DSL connections and 1,634,000 cable modem connections. There are over 150 Internet Service Providers offer ADSL products through the UK. (Source: Ofcom)

Target:

The Government set a target for the UK to have the most extensive and competitive broadband market in the G7 by the end of 2005, with a significant increase in broadband connections in schools, libraries, further education colleges, universities, GP surgeries, hospitals, justice's courts and every Primary Care Trust.

Local Loop Unbundling:

By the end of June 2004, around 13,800 (fully and shared) loops have been unbundled. These being used by operators and service providers to deliver a range of broadband services to end-users - such as SDSL and 4 Mbps services. (Source: Ofcom)

¹ BT estimates that 90% of homes and businesses are in areas where an exchange has been upgraded. They announced on 30 June 2004 the planned roll out of broadband coverage to 99.6 per cent of UK households by Summer 2005. BT has also published a [press release](#) on 18 August 2004. Based on the success of extended reach pilot trials to areas such as Milton Keynes and Scottish Highlands. They are confident a 512kb/sec ADSL service can now be provided to the vast majority of people beyond the former limit, which was roughly equivalent to 6km distance from the exchange.