



## UK Broadband Speedtest Results October 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 October 2009.

<b>Average download &amp; upload speeds - October 2009</b>		
<b>ISP</b>	<b>Average Download speed (Mbps)</b>	<b>Average Upload Speed (Mbps)</b>
AOL	2.183	0.323
Be and O2*	5.019	0.716
BT	2.920	0.372
Eclipse	3.899	0.426
Orange	3.199	0.396
Plusnet	2.559	0.340
Sky	3.512	0.454
Talk Talk	3.357	0.483
Tiscali	2.770	0.345
Virgin Media	7.260	0.541
<b>All providers</b>	<b>4.328</b>	<b>0.465</b>

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

During October 2009 Virgin Media have yet again extended their lead as the UK's fastest broadband supplier, however the majority of this gain is due to O2/Be falling back in terms of average broadband speedtest results.

The average of all providers shows a small fall from the previous month.

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<b>Average download speeds split by time of day – October 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	2.520	2.280	1.917
Be and O2*	5.476	5.056	4.865
BT	3.391	3.194	2.430
Eclipse	5.148	3.739	3.955
Orange	3.143	2.985	3.480
Plusnet	2.949	2.595	2.429
Sky	4.261	3.507	3.343
Talk Talk	3.792	3.526	3.051
Tiscali	2.888	2.774	2.740
Virgin Media	8.303	7.772	6.499
<b>All providers</b>	4.913	4.492	4.002

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 again hold the top slots in all 3 time periods, with the average evening speed breaking the 8Mbps barrier for the first time. AOL are again limp in to last place in all three categories with the evening result being especially poor at under 2Mbps.



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### Average throughput achieved by Suppliers

When a user has carried out a speedtest and provided us with their postcode we can work out the throughput as a percentage of the maximum speed we would expect them to achieve. So a user we expect to have a maximum speed of 4Mbps and who tests as 4Mbps gets a 100% throughput result.

<b>ISP</b>	<b>Average throughput (as % of expected maximum speed)</b>
AOL	54%
Be	122%
BT	61%
Eclipse	64%
O2	101%
Orange	65%
Plusnet	52%
Sky	76%
TalkTalk	74%
Tiscali	54%
Virgin Media – ADSL	89%
Virgin Media – fibre optic	160%
<b>All suppliers</b>	<b>83%</b>

As this test relies on users to select their own suppliers we can differentiate between O2 and Be, and also Virgin Media users using ADSL or fibre optic connections.

As some suppliers use ADSL2+ or fibre optic technology then they can achieve speed ratios of over 100% and this is to be expected.



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### About the 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/>
- 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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