An Coimisiún um
Rialáil Cumarsáide
Commission for
Communications Regulation

Legacy Copper Broadband & Gigabit Availability Status

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Information Notice

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1. There is an ongoing upgrade of copper based fixed telecoms networks to modern fibre-based networks. These modern fibre networks provide for higher speed broadband services and reduced power consumption.

2. In order to provide further transparency for stakeholders, ComReg is publishing information at a county level on the availability of modern fibre infrastructure and on the status of end users' migration from the use of broadband services delivered over copper-based networks to broadband services provided on fibre based broadband services.

3. The county level metrics show the availability of next generation (NG) broadband services to premises (i.e. Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) and cable broadband), active copper-only based broadband volumes and NG broadband availability for premises with an active copper based broadband service.

4. The metrics are derived using the data collected quarterly by ComReg from authorised operators, with this data used for a range of regulatory purposes, including the publication of the Quarterly Key Data Report. The data will be published on the ComReg Data Hub at:

   https://www.comreg.ie/industry/electronic-communications/data-hub-dashboards-open-data/

   The initial publication date is Wednesday, 18 November 2026. This dataset will be updated on timelines communicated alongside the dataset.

5. ComReg Decision D09/23 established a framework to support the orderly transition from older copper broadband networks to modern fibre networks. The framework applies primarily to the Eircom fibre network and sets out the conditions that must be met before existing copper-based services can be withdrawn in areas where fibre broadband has been rolled out. This regulatory framework applies mainly in areas of the country where broadband infrastructure is being provided on a commercial basis rather than under the National Broadband Plan.

6. Under the framework, progress is measured at a local network level. Once fibre broadband is available to at least 75% of premises in an area, Eircom may announce that it will no longer sell new copper-based broadband services in that area. Once fibre broadband is available to all relevant premises, Eircom may begin the process of withdrawing copper-based services. The data being published is presented at county level rather than local network level, however it provides an indication of progress towards these migration milestones.