



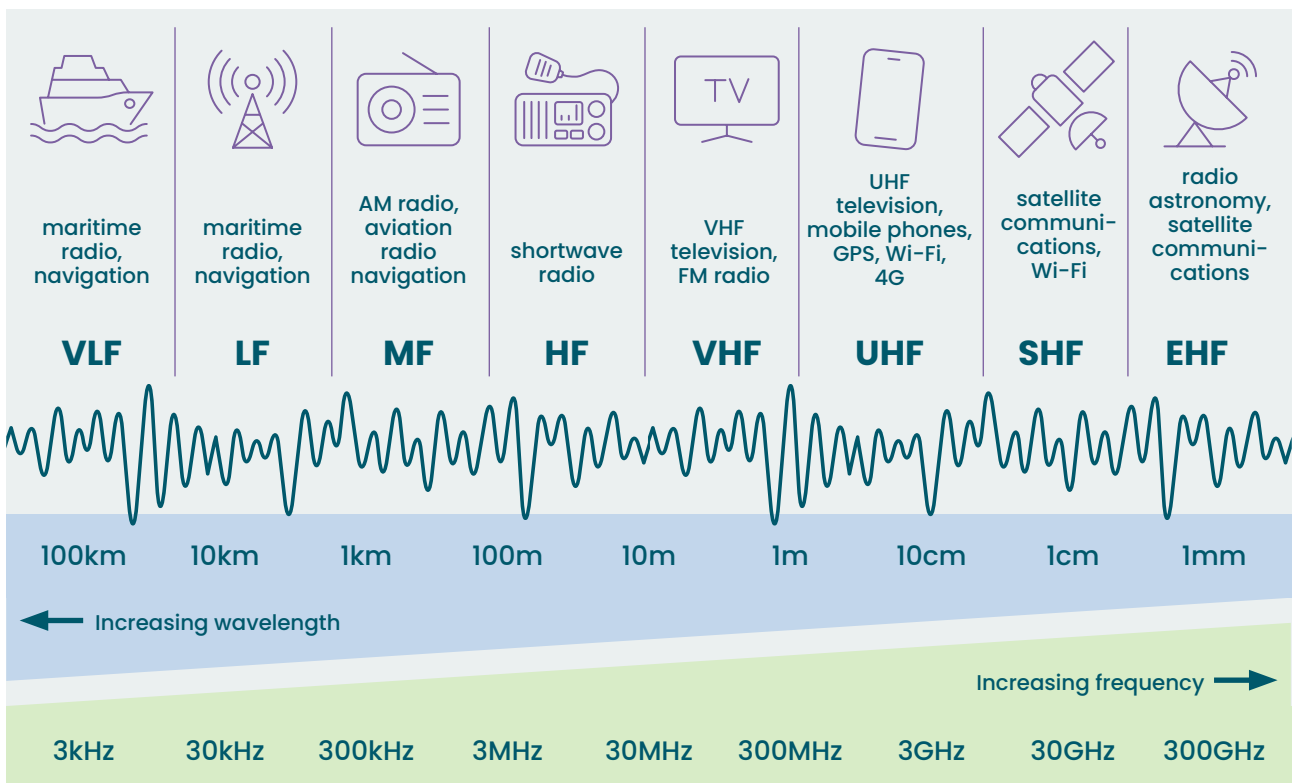
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**Rialáil Cumarsáide**  
Commission for  
**Communications Regulation**

# Radio Spectrum Licensing Annual Report 2025



# What is Radio Spectrum?

The radio spectrum is the invisible range of electromagnetic waves that carry wireless communications through the air. It acts as an invisible pathway for data, allowing services like Wi-Fi, mobile phones, and radio broadcasting to work without physical wires.



Radio spectrum licensing is essentially a “traffic control” system for these services. It gives specific individuals, businesses, or organisations the legal right to use a certain radio frequency in a specific area, and prevents wireless signals from interfering with each other.

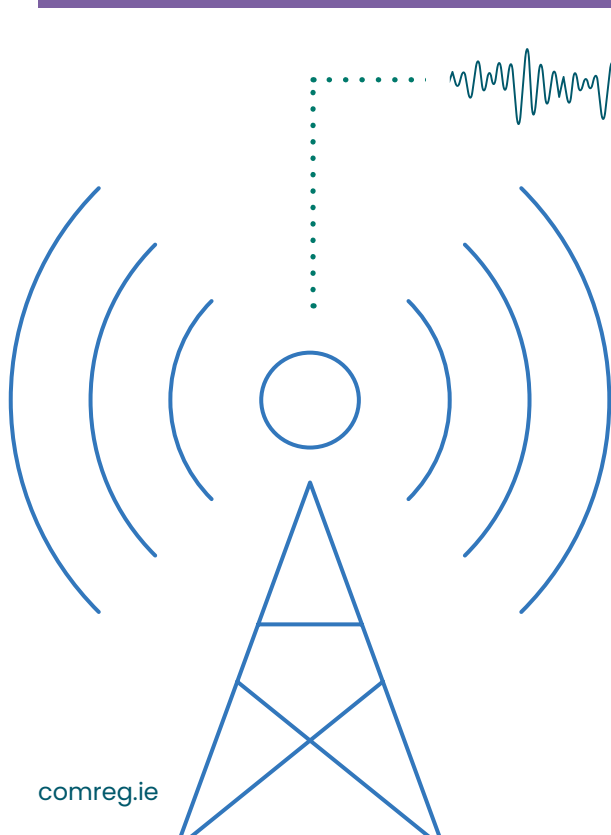
# Radio Spectrum Licensing

In Ireland, the possession and use of radio equipment requires authorisation from ComReg and this authorisation may take the form of either a licence or a licence-exemption under the 1926 Act.



## Key Activities

- Technically assess applications & issues radio spectrum licences
- Coordinate spectrum use
- Develop and implement licensing frameworks
- Implement harmonised regulatory requirements
- Implement efficient licensing processes and systems
- Support innovation and emerging technologies



Radio spectrum licensing helps ComReg to fulfil its statutory objective to manage the radio spectrum efficiently by coordinating competing demands.

# Licensing Activity 2024-2025



**22,261 Total Live Licences**  
as of 30 June 2025

## Licence Breakdown by category



**71% Fixed Links**



**10%**  
Amateur  
Radio



**9%**  
Aviation



**5.4%**  
PMR

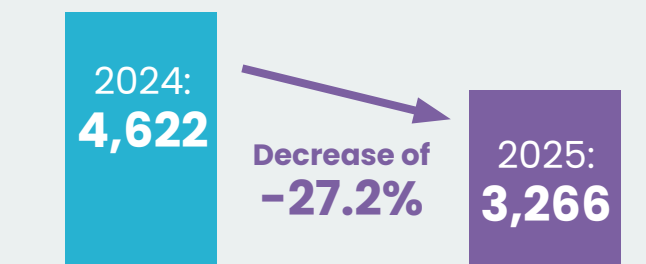


**3%**  
Broadcasting

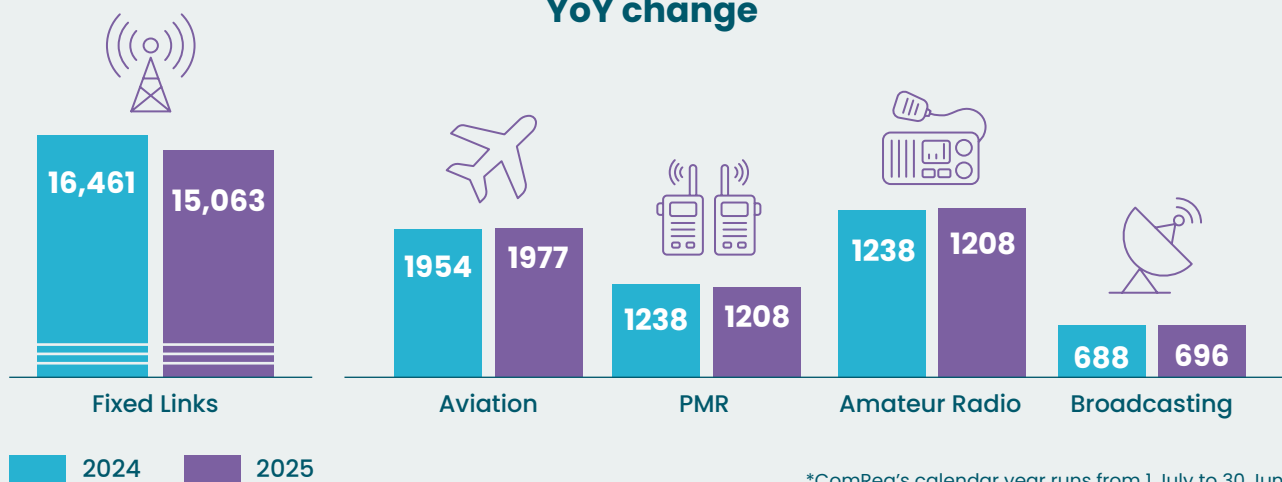


**2%**  
Other

## Number of New and Amended Licences Issued



## YoY change



\*ComReg's calendar year runs from 1 July to 30 June

# Key insights from licensing activities



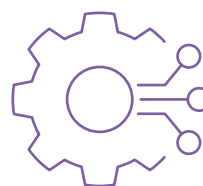
## All Licences

- **22,261** total number of licences
- Fixed links make up the majority but has reduced slightly
- Satellite earth stations is growing, although it remains a minor category
- Other licence types remain important



## Licensing Activity Trend

- **27.2%** decrease in New & Amended licences issued in 2025, compared to 2024
- The decrease was mainly driven by reduced demand for Fixed Links
- Business Radio activity was lower than previous years reflecting fewer new applications and amendments requests
- Aircraft, Satellite and Amateur Radio applications increased reflecting continued demand in these area



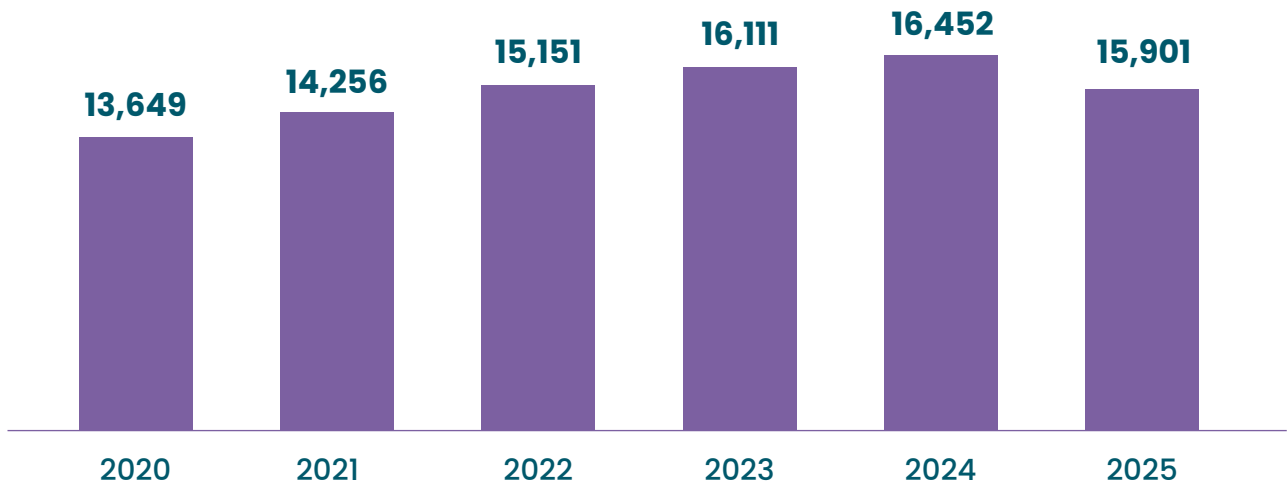
## Notable Industry Activity

- Market changes (e.g. rollout of fibre, satellite services etc.) are influencing demand
- Test & Trial Ireland remains important, as demand for testing and trialling in Ireland grows, particularly with rising interest in new technologies (e.g. private 5G networks)

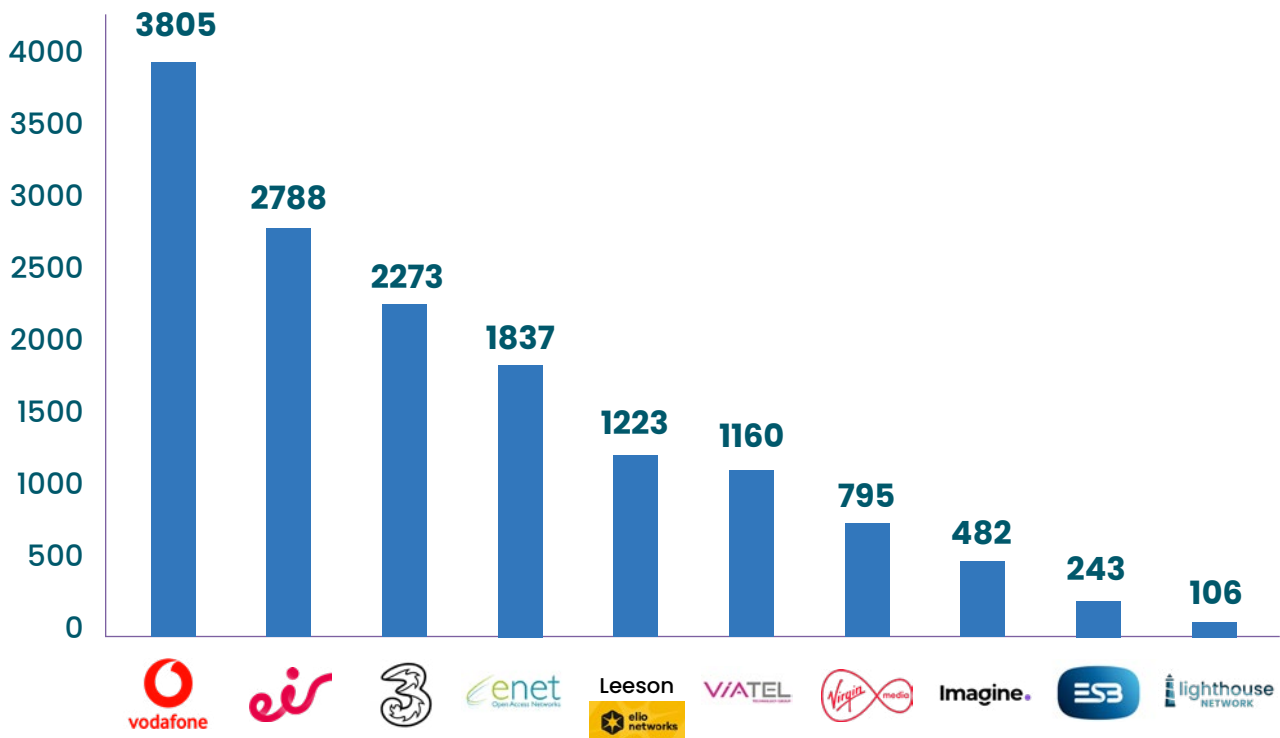
Overall demand across these licence types remains consistent year-on-year

# Fixed Links

Live Point-to-Point Fixed Links, June 2020–June 2025



Number of live Fixed Links for the top 10 licensees on 30 June 2025



# Projects & Licensing Outputs



## GNSS Repeaters:

- Introduction of GNSS repeater licensing – More Information in ComReg Document 26/25



## Licence exemption update:

- Exemption for mobile communications on board vessels and aircraft – S.I. No. 88 of 2026 & S.I. No. 87 of 2026
- Exemption for mobile phone repeaters – S.I. No. 86 of 2026



## Railway Mobile Radio:

- Introduction of RMR licensing – More Information in ComReg Document 26/25



## Licensing process improvements:

- Enhanced site location accuracy for fixed link applications by changing coordinates to decimal degrees
- Increased efficiency in account management through updates to the eLicensing portal



## Licensing Operations:

- Continued processing and issuing wireless telegraphy licences in line with KPIs (25 working days)
- Maintained efficient and timely handling of licence applications
- A project has begun to enhance the Fixed Radio Link application process to improve efficiency

# Projects & Licensing Developments

These developments support more flexible and efficient use of spectrum and enable new and evolving services.



## Wireless Broadband Low-Medium Power (WBB LMP):

- Development of licensing framework for Wireless broadband low medium power
- Supports wireless broadband deployment in the 3.8-4.2 GHz band
- Enables local and private network use
- Final Decision and implementation to follow consultation and regulatory process

## PMR Review:

- Review of private mobile radio licensing framework
- Assessing current usage and future demand
- Considering potential updates to licensing approach
- Supports business, industry and specialist communications
- Final Decision and implementation to follow consultation and regulatory process



# Looking Ahead



## Short Range Devices

- Update to SRD Document ComReg 02/71R
- Aligning with EU harmonisation and emerging IoT technologies



## 26 GHz Block Licensing Award

- Award of 26 GHz block licences for fixed radio links ahead of expiry in 2028
- Supporting future high-capacity wireless and spectrum demand



## Amateur Radio Licensing Framework

- Review of licensing regime
- Considering future requirements and usage



## Wireless Broadband Low-Medium Power (WBB LMP)

- Implementation of licensing framework
- Supporting private networks and local connectivity



## Licensing systems & tools

- Ongoing development of licensing systems
- Enhancing application processes and Siteviewer functionality



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