

## Broadband in Estonia

Estonia has established basic broadband coverage throughout the country, and has brought its broadband targets for 2020 in line with those of the Digital Agenda for Europe.

### Summary of broadband development in Estonia

Estonia updated the targets and measures for broadband as part of its Digital Agenda 2020 in early 2014. The strategy envisages full coverage with connections of at least 30 Mbps by 2020 and aims to promote take-up of ultra-fast subscriptions with at least 100 Mbps with the objective that these account for 60% or more of all internet subscriptions by the same year. Estonia is currently deploying a middle-mile network of fibre-optic cables. After completion, 98% of all residential buildings, companies, and public authorities will be located within 1.5 km of at least one fibre-optic network access point. Estonia's new information society strategy is in preparation. With its 5G roadmap, Estonia would like to achieve 5G connectivity in major cities by 2023 and along transport corridors by 2025. Estonia is in the process of putting together the new broadband plan for 2021-2030.

### National broadband strategy and policy

#### Responsible authorities

- The process of broadband deployment is managed by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications (MKM, Majandus-ja Kommunikatsiooniministeerium). The Ministry is responsible for broadband strategy and legislation.
- The Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority (TTJA, Tarbijakaitse ja Tehnilise Järelevalve Amet) is a governmental organisation operating in the administrative area of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications. It oversees and regulates technical standards and collects market data. The aim of the Authority is to help implement the national economic policy through improvement of safety, organising the expedient use of limited resources and increasing the reliability of the products in the field of manufacturing environments, industrial equipment, railway and electronic communication.
- The Estonian Broadband Development Foundation (ELASA, Eesti Lairiba Arenduse Sihtasutuse) was established in 2009. ELASA is responsible for the EstWin project, installation of fibre-optic cables and construction of connection points.
- The Estonian Association of Information Technology and Telecommunications (ITL, Eesti Infotehnoloogia ja Telekommunikatsiooni Liit) unites Estonian ICT companies, promotes their cooperation, presents their joint positions regarding broadband network development and acts as a competence centre.
- The Information System Authority (RIA, Riigi Infosüsteemi Amet) is an implementing entity of the structural assistance of the European Union, which administers the European Regional Development Fund support in building the broadband backhaul network.

## EstWin project

In 2009, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications and the Estonian Association of Information Technology and Telecommunications (ITL) founded the Estonian Broadband Development Foundation (ELASA). Members of the Supervisory Board of the Foundation include a representative of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications (MKM). The purpose of the Foundation is to implement the EstWin project and to give all residential houses, businesses and authorities a chance to connect to the next-generation broadband network with a transmission speed up to 100 Mbps. The roll-out of the high-speed middle-mile networks to sparsely populated areas, which were unlikely to be covered by market-driven deployment, involves laying over 6000 km of fibre-optic cables and the construction of network access points. These investments are intended to stimulate complementary deployments of last-mile connections by commercial telecom operators. EstWin is funded inter alia from European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF). The implemented and planned parts of the network are visualised on the online map.

## Main aims for broadband development

- Completion of the high-speed middle-mile network
- Expansion of the broadband access network in regions of market failure, by:
  - Reducing administrative burden related to the construction of a communication network by simplifying the relevant legal framework;
  - Obligatory installation of “last mile” connections in new buildings which are part of state-funded development projects;
  - Promoting community initiatives for the development of fast internet connections;
  - Supporting the construction of “last mile” connections in areas of market failure, including rural areas, if necessary;
- Analysing the need for external connections and implementing relevant projects when necessary;
- Ensuring the availability of radio frequencies that meet the requirements of information society to provide internet access for end users in areas where fixed networks are not available;
- Promoting the principle of network neutrality, which means that electronic communication operators may not restrict final users’ access to legal communication services, websites or available platforms;
- Promoting secure public WiFi networks, mainly provided by (local) public sector organisations.

The long term NGA aims are 100% coverage with 30 Mbps and 60% household penetration with 100 Mbps service by 2020.

## Main measures for broadband development

A central mapping tool (Communications Coverage Application) on availability of broadband services has been developed by the Estonian Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority (TTJA). It is an interactive portal, where the users can get information about the availability of broadband services in Estonia.

## Data on broadband development and technologies in Estonia

For the latest data on broadband coverage, subscriptions and penetrations, coverage of different broadband technologies and costs check the scoreboard reports and the country reports of the Digital Economy & Society Index (DESI).

# Spectrum assignments for wireless broadband

For details on harmonised spectrum assignments consult the European 5G Observatory.

## National and EU publications and press documents

### English

- Digital Agenda 2020 for Estonia
- Development vision of next-generation broadband network in Estonia 2009
- Study on National Broadband Plans in the EU-28
- Guide to High-Speed Broadband Investment
- Estonia - country reports on performances in digitisation: connectivity, digital skills, digital public services and more
- Mobile and fixed broadband prices in Europe at the end of 2019
- Study on broadband coverage in Europe 2019

### Estonian

- Development vision of next-generation broadband network in Estonia 2009 (Eesti uue põlvkonna lairibavõrgu arendusvisioon)
- Analysis and proposals to build the fast internet connections (“last mile”)
- Estonian Information Society Development Plan 2020 (Eesti infoühiskonna arengukava 2020)

## Contact information

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## **Related Content**

### **Big Picture**

Broadband in EU countries

Find current information on broadband development in each country, as well as national strategies and policies for developing broadband.

### **See Also**

Broadband in Sweden

Sweden's national broadband plan, adopted in 2016, has the vision of an entirely connected Sweden and has goals for both mobile coverage and for high-speed broadband connections for households and businesses. By 2020, 95% of all households and companies should have access to...

[Broadband in Spain](#)

Digital connectivity and 5G rollout are among the ten strategic priorities of the Spain Digital 2025 Agenda.

[Broadband in Slovenia](#)

Slovenia's broadband aims are in line with the gigabit society targets.

[Broadband in Slovakia](#)

Slovakia has set the long-term objective of achieving access to high-speed internet connection with at least 30 Mbps for all households by the end of 2020.

[Broadband in Romania](#)

Romania's broadband plan focuses on building up a national broadband network as a first step towards achieving the targets set by the Digital Agenda for Europe.

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### Broadband in Portugal

Portugal's NGA coverage is slightly below EU average. The Agenda Portugal Digital aims at development of a digital infrastructure that allows citizens to take advantage of the new opportunities offered by technologies.

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### Broadband in Poland

Poland's national broadband plan foresees that 100% of households should have access to internet connectivity of at least 30 Mbps by 2020. 50% of households should have internet connectivity of 100 Mbps by 2020.

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### Broadband in the Netherlands

The Dutch government supports the Gigabit Society targets. All households should have the opportunity to access broadband networks of at least 100 Mbps and a vast majority should be taking advantage of 1 Gbps by 2023. Mobile networks must also be able to access basic services at...

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### Broadband in Malta

Malta's broadband policy is technology neutral and favours a competitive market environment.

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### Broadband in Luxembourg

The development of a communication infrastructure with a target of gigabit broadband access throughout the country is one of the priorities in the governmental programme of Luxembourg.

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### Broadband in Lithuania

Lithuania's Next Generation Internet Access Development Plan focuses on direct state contribution to long-term infrastructure development, supports measures promoting private sector investments and seeks to foster an increase in demand for fast broadband access.

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### Broadband in Latvia

Broadband facilitates the development of e-services for government, schools, commerce, health and business besides providing high-speed internet to residents, businesses and public administrations in Latvia.

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## Broadband in Italy

The Italian strategy for next generation access network aims at developing a high-speed access network to maximise the take-up of an infrastructure able to guarantee services of 100 Mbps for at least 85% of households by 2020. Italy adopted a national state aid scheme to support...

## Broadband in Ireland

The national broadband plan for Ireland foresees that by 2026 all premises in Ireland will have access to high-speed broadband.

## Broadband in Hungary

Hungary's National Digitization Strategy 2021-2030 aims at 95% of households covered by gigabit networks by 2030.

## Broadband in Greece

The Greek Digital Transformation Bible 2020-2025 highlights connectivity as one of the five strategic axes and acknowledges the Gigabit Society 2025 targets.

## Broadband in Germany

The 2018 coalition agreement of the German Federal Government identifies the priority goal of a nationwide expansion of gigabit networks by 2025. The federal government has also developed a 5G Strategy for Germany.

## Broadband in France

The national broadband programme France Très Haut Débit sets out the targets of fast broadband access for all households by 2022 and fibre for all by 2025.

## Broadband in Finland

The Finnish authorities go for a competition-driven, fibre-based network roll-out assisted by public funds for underserved areas and advice for local municipalities on how to deploy broadband networks.

## Broadband in Denmark

A number of political initiatives aiming at nation-wide fixed and mobile broadband coverage support

Danish broadband goals. The Government works towards making Denmark a digital frontrunner by creating a foundation for Danish businesses to exploit digital technologies.

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### Broadband in the Czech Republic

The National Plan for the Development of Very High Capacity Networks, approved in March 2021, defines the strategic approach of the Czech Republic to the construction of VHCN.

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### Broadband in Cyprus

Cyprus' broadband plan sets strategic objectives for 2016-2020 and is aligned with the Gigabit Society objectives and the 5G Action Plan. It aims at Internet coverage with at least 30 Mbps for all households and businesses by 2020. In order to achieve the 2020 take-up target of...

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### Broadband in Croatia

Croatia's strategy contains basic principles such as service and technological neutrality, net neutrality and inclusion of broadband internet access among universal services.

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### Broadband in Bulgaria

The National Broadband Infrastructure Plan for Next Generation Access "Connected Bulgaria" and the Policy in the field of electronic communications have been updated and adopted in August 2020.

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### Broadband in Belgium

Belgium's broadband strategy is incorporated into a broader policy strategy "Digital Belgium 2015-2020". The aim is to provide speeds of up to 1 Gbps to half of the country by 2020 and to facilitate a proactive 5G roll-out. By lowering costs and reducing administrative burdens...

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### Broadband in Austria

Austria's broadband strategy focuses on the nationwide supply of Gigabit connections by 2030. By the end of 2025, almost nationwide availability of 5G should have been realised.

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**Source URL:** <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/policies/broadband-estonia>