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.

Summary of broadband development in France

France commits to covering its entire territory with high-speed broadband (30 Mbps) by 2022. Furthermore, the National Broadband Plan, France Très Haut Débit, foresees extending optical fibre to subscribers throughout the country by 2025.

National broadband strategy and policy

Responsible authorities

- A key actor in the state level broadband development is the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Recovery (Ministère de l'Économie, des Finances et de la Relance).
- The National Agency for Territorial Cohesion (l'Agence Nationale de la Cohésion des Territoires) is responsible for implementing France's broadband strategy. The agency operates a task force in charge of the national broadband plan (France Très Haut Débit).
- The French Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Post (Autorité de régulation des communications électroniques et des postes, arcep) is the main body responsible for regulatory measures concerning the expansion of France's broadband networks.
- The General Commission for Territorial Equality (Commissariat Général à l'Egalité des Territoires) acts as national Broadband Competence Office.

Main aims for broadband development

The French broadband target defined by the France Très Haut Débit is to guarantee broadband (at least 8 Mbps) for all citizens by 2020 and, achieve 100% coverage with 30 Mbps by 2022 and extend fibre to subscribers throughout the country by 2025. France's broadband targets exceed the DAE, albeit with a longer time frame. France predominantly opts for establishing and widening its broadband network infrastructure through FTTH technology. arcep leads the development of 5G network in France.

Main measures for broadband development

Broadband mapping: Created in November 2011, the Digital Observatory collects and interprets data to assess the impact of digital technologies in the economy and to compare France with other countries of the European Union.

Other measures: The French Government published a convention agreement on the modalities of FTTH deployment, Modèle de Convention de programmation et de suivi des déploiements FttH

2013 as well as specifications for network development project applications in its broadband strategy (France Très Haut Débit).

National and regional broadband financial instruments

French officials expect that the national strategy will require mobilisation of private and public investments of up to EUR 20 billion. The Fund for the Digital Society (Fonds pour la société numerique) provides a combination of public loans and funding to support the roll-out of ultrafast broadband by the French government. Infrastructure projects that are eligible include works on backhaul networks (FTTN), passive fibre optic networks (FTTH), customer access (FTTH), access for public institutions (education, health, public administration), support for Wi-Max and/or satellite receivers as well as feasibility studies for planned roll-out projects.

Data on broadband development and technologies in France

For the latest data on broadband coverage, subscriptions and penetration, 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.

Publications and press documents

English

- Study on National Broadband Plans in the EU-28
- Guide to High-Speed Broadband Investment
- France - 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

French

- National Broadband Plan "France Très Haut Débit"
- Modèle de Convention de programmation et de suivi des déploiements FttH (pdf)

Contact information

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Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (Autorité de régulation des communications électroniques et des postes)

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Website

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.

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.

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.

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...

Broadband in Malta

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

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.

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.

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.

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 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 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.

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.

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.

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...

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.

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.

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...

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.