

Broadband in Spain

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

Summary of broadband development in Spain

The Spain Digital 2025 Agenda supports EU connectivity objectives. It aims to extend ultrafast network coverage to the entire population and prepare 100% of the radio spectrum for 5G by 2025. These objectives are operationalized in the Plan for Connectivity and Digital Infrastructures and the Strategy to Promote 5G Technology, respectively.

National broadband strategy and policy

Responsible authorities

- The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Digital Transformation (Ministerio de Asuntos Económicos y Transformación Digital) is responsible for drafting and coordinating plans, technological programmes and actions to advance connectivity and digital transformation in Spain.
- The National Commission of Markets and Competition (Comisión Nacional de los Mercados y la Competencia) is responsible for regulating all markets and productive sectors of the Spanish economy to ensure free competition and consumer protection.

Main aims for broadband development

The Spain Digital 2025 Agenda outlines ten strategic priorities to advance the country's digital transformation in line with EU Gigabit objectives. Regarding broadband, it aims to guarantee 100 Mbps coverage for the entire population by closing the digital gap between urban and rural areas. Moreover, it seeks to advance 5G deployment by preparing the entire radio spectrum accordingly.

To achieve the broadband objectives incorporated in the Spain Digital 2025 Agenda, the Spanish Government published a new connectivity plan and 5G strategy in December 2020.

The Digital Infrastructures and Connectivity Plan outlines actions to cover 100% of the population with more than 100 Mbps by 2025. It focuses on rural areas that are not covered by the operators' own deployment plans. Moreover, the plan includes measures to achieve 1 Gbps connectivity in data-intensive industry and research areas.

The Strategy for the promotion of 5G technology complements the national connectivity plan to account for the different level of maturity and transformational impact of 5G compared to, e.g., fibre. The strategy outlines actions to improve spectrum assignment and management, and incentivize 5G deployment and use, including through an updated regulatory and legal framework.

The National Telecommunications and Information Society Observatory (ONTSI) provides public

information on the digital transformation to support the assessment and, where necessary, adjustment of the actions developed within the framework of the Spain Digital 2025 Agenda.

National and regional broadband financial instruments

- The national funding programme PEBA-NGA finances the roll-out of next-generation broadband networks in rural and less populated areas since 2013. It is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The programme is designed to reach areas where private investment alone is not sufficient to satisfy the connectivity needs of citizens and businesses.
- Implementation of the Spain Digital 2025 Agenda between 2020 and 2022 is intended to be financed with around EUR 20 billion in public funds, of which approximately EUR 15 billion EUR is intended to come from the various EU programmes and new financing instruments under the Next Generation EU Recovery Plan. This is expected to be complemented by around EUR 50 billion from the private sector.
- The Plan for Connectivity and Digital Infrastructures and the Strategy to Promote 5G Technology are intended to receive EUR 4.3 billion of public funding between 2020 and 2025. They are expected to mobilise private investment of an additional EUR 24 billion within this period.

Data on broadband development and technologies in Spain

For the latest data on broadband coverage, take-up, 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.

Publications and press documents

English

- Spain Digital 2025 Agenda
- Study on National Broadband Plans in the EU-28
- Guide to High-Speed Broadband Investment
- Broadband Connectivity Reports and Analyses
- Mobile and fixed broadband prices in Europe at the end of 2019
- Study on broadband coverage in Europe 2019

Spanish

- España Digital 2025
- Plan para la Conectividad y las Infraestructuras Digitales de la sociedad, la economía y los territorios
- Estrategia de Impulso de la Tecnología 5G

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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 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 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 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.

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