

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 at a minimum capacity of 100 Mbps and by 2025, all of Sweden should have access to high-speed broadband. The importance of 5G roll-out has been acknowledged by Sweden for instance in the frame of the Nordic Council of Ministers for Digitalisation. This ad hoc council has been given the task to take lead in following up the declaration on 5G signed by the Nordic prime ministers in May 2018.

Summary of broadband development in Sweden

In its broadband strategy, the Swedish government has identified three strategic areas in order to meet the goals set in the strategy: Roles and rules on the broadband market, cost-efficient expansion of the broadband infrastructure and services for everyone. According to the broadband strategy "A Completely Connected Sweden by 2025", the focal point has to be people's need for broadband access, whether they live in densely populated areas, scarcely populated areas and rural areas, or in areas situated in between. Sweden is committed to be at the forefront of the development of 5G. One manifestation of this is the Nordic-Baltic cooperation on 5G, undertaken within the frame of the Nordic Council of Ministers. In May 2018, the Nordic prime ministers signed a declaration on 5G, with the common vision of being the first and foremost-integrated region in the world. In order to achieve this goal a common action plan for early adoption of 5G technology has been set up by the Nordic-Baltic ministers of digitalisation.

National broadband strategy and policy

Responsible authorities

- The Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation (Näringsdepartementet) is responsible for digitalisation and broadband policy.
- The Swedish Post and Telecom Authority (PTS) is the authority that monitors and regulates the electronic communications and post sectors. The vision of the authority is that everyone in Sweden should have access to good telephony, broadband and postal services.
- The Bredbandsforum was appointed by the Government in 2010 and is responsible for facilitating cooperation between concerned actors in order to promote an effective expansion of broadband infrastructure. The forum also has the mission to create an arena for government, companies, authorities and other organisations to collectively identify obstacles for the deployment and to find solutions facilitating broadband access in the entire country.

Main aims for broadband development

The government's vision for a completely connected Sweden is that the broadband infrastructure should correspond to the user's need for connectivity. In the broadband strategy adopted in

December 2016, the Swedish government identified the need for goals in two areas: access to high-speed broadband in all of Sweden and access to reliable and high quality mobile services. The objective of the strategy is that 95% of all households and businesses should have access to broadband at a minimum capacity of 100 Mbps by 2020. The strategy goes beyond 2020 and states that by 2025 all of Sweden should have access to high-speed broadband. That implies that 98% of all households and businesses should have access to broadband at a minimum capacity of 1 Gbps. The remaining 1.9% should have access to connections at a minimum capacity of 100 Mbps and 0.1% at a minimum capacity of 30 Mbps. The strategy also has a goal for mobile coverage: all of Sweden should have access to reliable and high-quality mobile services no later than the year 2023.

Main measures for broadband development

- Broadband mapping: In Sweden, a web service Ledningskollen has been developed and steered by the Swedish post and telecom authority (NRA) with the aim of sharing information on infrastructure owners (i.e. pipelines and other infrastructure). The platform has been developed and is publicly accessible on a voluntary basis in order to prevent damage during excavation and enhance coordination in civil work. In addition to the Ledningskollen, PTS has a national mapping tool called the Broadband Map (Bredbandskartan), which shows the availability of broadband, network owners and ISPs near a specific location throughout Sweden.
- Swedish broadband deployment is primarily market-driven, but in areas where there are no commercial incentives to invest, there is complementary public funding available. In Sweden, municipalities play an important role in network deployment by way of controlling and determining conditions for access for operators to municipal land.
- SEK 202.8 million are provided to the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020 for continued broadband expansion in rural areas.

National and regional broadband financial instruments

- State aid for broadband deployment in areas where there are no commercial investments in NGA-networks is available through the Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and in the northern part of Sweden via the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

Data on broadband development and technologies in Sweden

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.

Publications and press documents

English

- A Completely Connected Sweden by 2025 – a Broadband Strategy
- Study on National Broadband Plans in the EU-28
- New Nordic cooperation on 5G

- 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

Swedish

- A Completely Connected Sweden by 2025 - a Broadband Strategy
- Digital Strategy for Sweden (Digitaliseringsstrategi)
- Broadband infrastructure mapping system (Ledningskollen)
- Broadband service mapping tool (Bredbandskartan)

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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 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 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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