

Cyprus: Broadband markets

Cyprus has a full availability of fixed networks and a relatively high availability of Next Generation Access. Take-up of fixed broadband remains below the European average, and shares of high speed and ultra-fast connections are low. In mobile broadband, take-up remains somewhat below the average.

In 2012, standard fixed broadband covered more than 99.95% of homes in Cyprus (95.5% in the EU). At the same time, Next Generation Access capable of providing at least 30 Mbps was available to 73.1% of homes (53.8% in the EU).

In January 2013, the incumbent operator had a market share well above the European average (67.9% as opposed to 42.3% in the EU). DSL was the most common technology to provide broadband (84.5% of subscriptions as opposed to 73.8% in the EU) and cable broadband connections accounted for 13.9% of the market.

The take-up (subscriptions as a percentage of population) of fixed broadband was 25.6% in January 2013, below the European average of 28.8% and only 0.5 p.p. higher than in 2012. The share of high speed connections (at least 30 Mbps) was very low (1.3% as opposed to 14.8% in the EU) and ultra-fast connections (at least 100 Mbps) accounted for only 0.1% of all subscriptions (3.4% in the EU).

On the mobile side, third generation mobile broadband (HSPA) was available to 99% of population in 2012 (96.3% in the EU), while 4th generation (LTE) was not yet deployed. The take-up (subscriptions as a percentage of population) rate of mobile broadband was 47.4% in January 2013, below the average of 54.5% in the EU.