

Press release

BROADBAND AND SUPERFAST BROADBAND MARKET

Fibre to the home (FttH) adoption continued to climb in Q1 2022. Meanwhile, FttH rollouts are progressing at a slower but still solid pace.

Paris, 9 June 2022

Today, Arcep is publishing its scorecard for the fixed broadband and superfast broadband market in France as of the end of March 2022. The rate of fibre to the home (FttH) deployment and adoption remained high in the first quarter of 2022.

ROLLOUTS: The overall rate of deployment slowed in Q1 while remaining solid, with 1.1 million new FttH lines deployed over the course of the quarter

- Over the course of Q1 2022, 1.1 million additional premises were passed for FttH – or around 20% fewer than in Q1 2021.
- As of 31 March 2022, 30.8million premises were eligible to subscribe to an FttH access service, or 21% more than one year earlier. Around 72% of all premises in France are thus eligible for FttH.
- Over the course of this first quarter, 700,000 premises in **lower density public-initiative areas** were rendered eligible for fibre access, which marks a 6% increase YoY.
- The pace of FttH deployment in **areas covered by private initiative** continues to slow compared to the previous quarter, with fewer than 300,000 additional premises passed in Q1 2022, which is a rate comparable to the one observed in 2016.
- Additional premises passed in those areas covered by calls for expressions of local interest (called "zones **AMEL**" in French) exceeded 300,000 at the end of Q1 2022.
- Lastly, the insufficient rate of progress of the past several quarters persists in **very high-density areas**, and the production of new lines has even decreased by a third compared to Q1 2021.
- In total, at the end of Q1 2022, 34 million households in France were able to subscribe to a superfast internet access service over a fixed network.

Monitoring operators' compliance with their legally binding FttH rollout commitments

Arcep is responsible for monitoring operators' compliance with the commitments they have made, and publishes a progress report on the rollouts in question on a regular basis.

At the end of Q1 2022, in those parts of the country where the Government has issued a call for investment letters of intent ("zones AMII"):

- around 86% of the premises for which Orange has made a commitment had been made eligible for fibre access¹,
- and around 94% of those in municipalities where SFR has made a commitment had been made eligible for fibre access.

¹ ERRATUM: an error was identified in the press release and publication for the previous quarter. It indicated an increase of 86% at the end of Q4 2021, whereas the correct figure is 85%. The open data used to calculate the rate of progress were correct, however.

Details regarding the progress of individual “AMEL” project commitments (i.e. legally binding FttH rollout commitments that certain operators have made to local authorities, as part of calls for expressions of local interest) can be found in pages 19 to 23 of the publication.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: fibre access subscription numbers remain high, with an additional 1 million access lines over the course of Q1 2022. At the end of March 2022, fibre connections represented 50% of all broadband and superfast broadband subscriptions in France.

- Superfast broadband subscription numbers continue to climb unabated. They reached 19.3 million as of 31 March 2022, and accounted for 61% of all broadband and superfast broadband internet subscriptions in France (+10 points YoY). Quarterly growth for superfast subscriptions remains high (+ 845,000 in Q1 2022) but is below the +1.1 million increase of the previous year, which is due primarily to the accelerated rate of decline in subscriptions to hybrid fibre solutions with coaxial cable in the last mile.
- This growth has been entirely due to an increase in fibre-to-the-home subscriptions: +1 million subscriptions in Q1 2022, and +4 million YoY. At the end of March 2022, the number of end-to-end fibre connections in France stood at 15.5 million and represented 49% of all broadband and superfast broadband connections. Of all the premises in France eligible to subscribe to FttH, half actually do subscribe to a fibre to the home plan.
- Customers continue to upgrade from broadband to superfast broadband subscriptions, with “classic” broadband subscriptions totalling 12.3 million at the end of Q1 2022, and continuing to shrink (- 2.8 million YoY).
- The total number of broadband and superfast broadband subscriptions stood at 31.6 million as of 31 March 2022, increasing by 135,000 over the quarter (versus + 215,000 in Q1 2021) at by 2.5% YoY.

Tracking FttH rollouts with “Ma connexion internet”

The “Déploiements fibre” maps on the “Ma connexion Internet” website (formerly cartefibre.arcep.fr) allow users to track the progress of FttH rollouts in a very detailed fashion. The forecast view also provides them with information on the timeline for upcoming optical fibre rollouts in a given municipality.



The information associated with these rollout maps, both existing and forecast, is available as open data.

To improve the “Ma connexion Internet” user experience, Arcep is asking visitors to share their expectations of the site by completing [a questionnaire](#) that will be online until the end of June 2022.

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Associated documents

> [Scorecard for fixed broadband and superfast broadband services – figures for Q1 2022](#)

> Maconnexioninternet.arcep.fr, to obtain detailed information on fixed internet access coverage, particularly thanks to FttH rollout maps (which are also still available at <https://cartefibre.arcep.fr/>)

> Open data: [data on fibre](#) and [data on all access technologies](#)

Missing information that will be published in the coming weeks:

> FttH network sharing figures

Arcep at a glance

The Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications, Postal Affairs and Print Media Distribution (Arcep), a neutral and expert arbitrator with the status of independent administrative authority (IAA), is the architect and guardian of internet, fixed and mobile communications and postal networks in France.

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