

COUNTRY: UNITED KINGDOM

SCORE: 78.88 | RANK: 9/24

The United Kingdom has a comprehensive set of cyberlaws. Data protection laws are particularly strong, with regular enforcement including large fines. However, businesses are required to register their data sets with the regulator, which seems to be an unnecessary burden on business and may act as a barrier to some cloud services.

The UK is free from Internet censorship and filtering, and up-to-date laws are in place for e-commerce and electronic signatures.

The UK is a signatory to the Convention on Cybercrime but has been criticized for not yet implementing one of its key provisions.

Advanced intellectual property laws are in place and are regularly enforced, although there is still a gap in relation

to the exact role of Internet service providers (ISPs) in copyright enforcement. The Digital Economy Act 2010 established a limited copyright liability regime for ISPs. However, key sections of the act, including the notice and takedown provisions, are not in force.

The UK already has high rates of Internet use and broadband penetration, and the UK recorded impressive results in the information technology (IT) infrastructure section of this year's report (they were the third-biggest improver in IT infrastructure).

Overall, the United Kingdom's results remained steady, but the country's ranking slipped slightly from 7th place in 2013 to 9th place, as it was overtaken by faster-moving nations.

Q UNITED KINGDOM	RESPONSE	EXPLANATORY TEXT
DATA PRIVACY (SCORE: 6.9/10 RANK: 12/24)		
1. Are there laws or regulations governing the collection, use, or other processing of personal information?	✓	The Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) is a comprehensive privacy law for the public and private sectors. It has been updated several times.
2. What is the scope and coverage of privacy law?	Comprehensive	The legislation is comprehensive and covers all sectors.
3. Is the privacy law compatible with the Privacy Principles in the EU Data Protection Directive?	✓	The Data Protection Act 1998 implements the European Union (EU) Data Protection Directive.
4. Is the privacy law compatible with the Privacy Principles in the APEC Privacy Framework?	✓	The Data Protection Act 1998 meets or exceeds the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Privacy Principles.
5. Is an independent private right of action available for breaches of data privacy?	Available	Article 8 of the Human Rights Act 1998 provides a right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence. Actions under this provision are rare, although it is sometimes used in actions related to privacy breaches by the media.
6. Is there an effective agency (or regulator) tasked with the enforcement of privacy laws?	National regulator	The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) < https://ico.org.uk/ > is the UK's independent public authority responsible for data protection in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
7. What is the nature of the privacy regulator?	Sole commissioner	The Information Commissioner is appointed on government recommendation, has independent status and reports directly to Parliament.
8. Are data controllers free from registration requirements?	✗	Data controllers must register with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) < https://ico.org.uk/ > to notify their intention to process personal data before they begin. Fees and an annual renewal requirement apply. There are a small number of exemptions to the registration requirement.

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9. Are cross-border transfers free from registration requirements?	✓	There are no additional registration requirements for offshore transfers, although the core registration requirements for all data collection still apply. The Data Protection Act allows data to be transferred to non-EU countries, subject to a range of conditions (such as consent and contract). One measure that is unusual in European legislation is that data can be transferred based on an internal risk assessment by the organization.
10. Is there a breach notification law?	🕒	There is no specific requirement to inform consumers about a data breach. However the ICO < https://ico.org.uk/ > has advised organizations that they should inform the ICO of any "serious" breaches, and these types of notifications occur regularly in the UK.
SECURITY (SCORE: 8/10 RANK: 2/24)		
1. Is there a law or regulation that gives electronic signatures clear legal weight?	✓	The Electronic Communications Act 2000 creates a legal framework for electronic commerce and the use of electronic signatures, both in the private and public sectors. The act is completed by the Electronic Signatures Regulations 2002, which implements the European Directive 1999/93/EC on a community framework for electronic signatures.
2. Are ISPs and content service providers free from mandatory filtering or censoring?	✓	There is no mandatory filtering or censorship of content in the UK, however, the majority of ISPs voluntarily filter content related to a number of topics, including pornography, drug use, suicide, violence, and hacking activities. There have been a number of draft bills that have contained mandatory filtering requirements, however none have been successful in passing Parliament.
3. Are there laws or enforceable codes containing general security requirements for digital data hosting and cloud service providers?	Limited coverage in legislation	The Data Protection Act requires organizations to ensure that personal data is protected against theft, unauthorized access or accidental loss. The act does not prescribe the implementation of any specific security measures; it simply requires "appropriate" technical and organizational security measures. A voluntary "cyber essentials" framework is in place to recognize those businesses that do adopt minimum security standards, < gov.uk/government/publications/cyber-essentials-scheme-overview >.
4. Are there laws or enforceable codes containing specific security audit requirements for digital data hosting and cloud service providers?	Limited coverage in legislation	There are no enforceable security audit requirements in the UK, except for the financial services sector. However, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) < https://ico.org.uk/ > strongly recommends the use of security audits and has its own powers to mandate security audits in some circumstances.
5. Are there security laws and regulations requiring specific certifications for technology products?	Comprehensive requirements (including common criteria)	The UK is a Certificate Authorizing Member (the highest level) of the Common Criteria Recognition Arrangement (CCRA) < www.commoncriteriaportal.org >. However, the UK has also adopted a faster and more flexible approach to security certification for its own market through the Commercial Product Assurance scheme < www.cesg.gov.uk/scheme/commercial-product-assurance-products-foundation-grade >. This scheme focuses on evaluating off-the-shelf products against existing security standards in order to fast-track their approval and use.
CYBERCRIME (SCORE: 6.8/10 RANK: 21/24)		
1. Are cybercrime laws in place?	✓	The Computer Misuse Act 1990 and the Fraud Act 2006 provide the key coverage of cybercrime offenses.
2. Are cybercrime laws consistent with the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime?	🕒	UK law is largely compatible with the Convention on Cybercrime. However, the Council of Europe has noted that the UK has not yet implemented laws relating to misuse of devices, as required by Article 6 of the Convention.
3. What access do law enforcement authorities have to encrypted data held or transmitted by data hosting providers, carriers or other service providers?	Unlimited access	Under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, failing to disclose an encryption key to police can be an offense in some circumstances. There has been at least one prosecution under this provision. A warrant is not always required. Broader access to encryption keys by law enforcement agencies was the subject of significant debate in the UK in 2015.
4. How does the law deal with extraterritorial offenses?	Comprehensive coverage	Criminal law in the UK requires a "significant link" with the UK before it applies. This may include the actions of a UK resident or the use of computer equipment hosted in the UK. As a signatory to the Cybercrime Convention, the UK will cooperate with law enforcement agencies in other jurisdictions, in accordance with the Cybercrime Convention provisions.

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (SCORE: 17.4/20 RANK: 4/24)		
1. Is the country a member of the TRIPS Agreement?	✓	The United Kingdom became a member of the TRIPS Agreement in 1995.
2. Have IP laws been enacted to implement TRIPS?	✓	The United Kingdom has implemented the TRIPS Agreement in local laws.
3. Is the country party to the WIPO Copyright Treaty?	✓	The United Kingdom signed the WIPO Copyright Treaty in 1997 and ratified it in 2009. It entered into force in the UK in March 2010.
4. Have laws implementing the WIPO Copyright Treaty been enacted?	✓	A combination of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and the new Digital Economy Act 2010 implement the WIPO Copyright Treaty provisions in the UK.
5. Are civil sanctions available for unauthorized making available (posting) of copyright holders' works on the Internet?	✓	Section 20 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 prohibits a person from "making available" copyrighted work without a license. The High Court recently ruled that making available to the public by online transmission is committed only where the transmission takes place. See <i>Football Dataco Ltd and others v. Sportradar GmbH & Sportradar AG</i> [2010] EWHC 2911 (Ch). Civil and criminal sanctions are both available for "making available" copyrighted works online.
6. Are criminal sanctions available for unauthorized making available (posting) of copyright holders' works on the Internet?	✓	Civil and criminal sanctions are both available for "making available" copyrighted works online.
7. Are there laws governing ISP liability for content that infringes copyright?	✓	The Digital Economy Act 2010 establishes a limited copyright liability regime for ISPs. However, key sections of the act, including the notice and takedown provisions, were not scheduled to come into force until an industry code of conduct is registered by the regulator (Ofcom) < www.ofcom.org.uk >. In mid-2014, the UK government announced that it was not actively developing the code or this part of the proposed legislative regime. Instead, work began on a voluntary education and alert system to be known as the Creative Content UK alert program < www.gov.uk/government/news/new-education-programme-launched-to-combat-online-piracy >. This program began with a broad public education phase in mid-2015, and will move to a subscriber alert phase in 2016. In the absence of the full Digital Economy Act implementation, ISPs are still subject to the relevant provisions of Section 20 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.
8. Is there a basis for ISPs to be held liable for content that infringes copyright found on their sites or systems?	✓	Generally, ISPs are liable only for content of which they have direct knowledge. The leading case is <i>Twentieth Century Fox Film Corp & Ors v. British Telecommunications Plc</i> [2011] EWHC 1981 (Ch) (28 July 2011) < www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Ch/2011/1981.html >, in which the court ordered British Telecommunications to block access to a movie aggregation site.
9. What sanctions are available for ISP liability for copyright infringing content found on their site or system?	Civil and criminal	Civil sanctions including damages and injunctions are available. Criminal sanctions are available under Section 107(2A)(b) of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, but they are rarely used.
10. Must ISPs take down content that infringes copyright, upon notification by the right holder?	ⓘ	Takedown requirements are currently left to decisions by the courts and individual ISPs. The key notice and takedown provisions of the Digital Economy Act 2010 (Sections 17 and 18) were never fully implemented and were abandoned by the UK government in mid-2014. They remain on the statute books as a potential "backstop" if other efforts fail, but they cannot be implemented without the development of an industry code. The industry has developed a voluntary education and alert system known as the Creative Content UK alert program < www.gov.uk/government/news/new-education-programme-launched-to-combat-online-piracy >. This scheme will not specifically include a mandatory takedown requirement. The scheme began operation with an education phase in mid-2015.
11. Are ISPs required to inform subscribers upon receiving a notification that the subscriber is using the ISP's service to distribute content that infringes copyright?	ⓘ	Notice requirements were included in the Digital Economy Act 2010, but these provisions were never implemented. The industry has developed a voluntary education and alert system known as the Creative Content UK alert program. This scheme does include some basic notice provisions, but these have not yet been implemented. The scheme began operation with an education phase in mid-2015.
12. Is there clear legal protection against misappropriation of cloud computing services, including effective enforcement?	Comprehensive protection	The UK provides a strong combination of cybercrime laws, copyright protection and privacy protection for cloud computing services, although some gaps remain in relation to managing ISP liability and the implementation of notice and takedown arrangements.

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SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRY LED STANDARDS & INTERNATIONAL HARMONIZATION OF RULES (SCORE: 9.4/10 RANK: 11/24)		
1. Are there laws, regulations or policies that establish a standards setting framework for interoperability and portability of data?	✓	A Memorandum of Understanding between the British Standards Institution (BSI) < www.bsigroup.com > and the United Kingdom government (2002) is the key regulatory document that manages standards process in the UK.
2. Is there a regulatory body responsible for standards development for the country?	✓	The British Standards Institution (BSI) < www.bsigroup.com > has existed since 1901. The BSI has a Memorandum of Understanding with the UK government, which establishes the position of BSI as the recognized UK national standards body.
3. Are e-commerce laws in place?	✓	In the UK, e-commerce laws are scattered throughout numerous pieces of legislation and are also included in the common law on contracting. Some of the core provisions are contained in the Electronic Commerce (EC Directive) Regulations 2002, although these do not include provisions on electronic contracts or electronic signatures (which are dealt with in the common law interpretation of terms such as writing and signature). As a result of this ad hoc approach to e-commerce law, most new laws are accompanied by specific electronic commerce enabling provisions.
4. What international instruments are the e-commerce laws based on?	UNCITRAL Model Law on E-Commerce	The act implements the EU E-Commerce Directive, which is largely based on the UNCITRAL Model Law on E-Commerce.
5. Is the downloading of applications or digital data from foreign cloud service providers free from tariff or other trade barriers?	✓	The information technology sector in the UK is free from tariffs and other trade barriers.
6. Are international standards favored over domestic standards?	✓	The UK favors international standards over national standards, although the adoption of EU standards is common in many sectors.
7. Does the government participate in international standards setting process?	✓	The British Standards Institution (BSI) < www.bsigroup.com > represents the UK in international standards development processes, and is an active participant in many IT standards committees.
PROMOTING FREE TRADE (SCORE: 6.8/10 RANK: 11/24)		
1. Are there any laws or policies in place that implement technology neutrality in government?	🕒	The UK is bound by the EU Directive on Public Procurement Law. Article 23 requires that "technical specifications shall afford equal access for tenderers and not have the effect of creating unjustified obstacles to the opening up of public procurement to competition." However, the Procurement Policy Note 07/15: open standards for technology (March 2015) < www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0715-open-standards-for-technology > establishes a strong preference for open standards and includes a catalog of open standards that have been accepted for use across government.
2. Are cloud computing services able to operate free from laws or policies that mandate the use of certain products (including, but not limited to types of software), services, standards or technologies?	✗	The Procurement Policy Note 07/15: open standards for technology (March 2015) < www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0715-open-standards-for-technology > states that: "When specifying IT requirements for software interoperability, data and document formats, InScope Organizations must: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• request that open standards adhering to the definition described in the open standards principles are adopted, subject to the principle of equivalence; and• use compulsory open standards profiles that have been adopted for use."
3. Are cloud computing services able to operate free from laws or policies that establish preferences for certain products (including, but not limited to types of software), services, standards or technologies?	✗	The Procurement Policy Note 07/15: open standards for technology (March 2015) < www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0715-open-standards-for-technology > establishes a preference for open standards, including a preference for some specific standards that have been approved for use across government.
4. Are cloud computing services able to operate free from laws that discriminate based on the nationality of the vendor, developer or service provider?	✓	There are no relevant domestic preferences in UK policy on IT procurement. The UK is a member of the updated World Trade Organization (WTO) plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement (all European Union members are covered by the EU membership since April 2014).

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IT READINESS, BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT (SCORE: 23.6/30 RANK: 1/24)		
1. Is there a national broadband plan?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2017, to bring "superfast broadband" to all parts of the UK with download speeds of at least 2 Mbps and to provide 95% of home and businesses with speeds of 24 Mbps. 	<p>The UK government's broadband plan is Broadband Delivery UK <www.gov.uk/guidance/broadband-delivery-uk>. The plan's goals include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide superfast broadband (at least 24 Mbps) coverage to 90% of the UK by 2016 Provide basic broadband (at least 2 Mbps) for all by 2016 Provide superfast broadband (at least 24 Mbps) to 95% of the UK by 2017 <p>The UK also has set out a target to establish 22 "superconnected cities," which comprise cities targeted for digital infrastructure projects in an effort to attract business investment.</p> <p>Note: The European Commission has set goals under the Digital Agenda for Europe initiative <ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/broadband-strategy-policy> for EU-wide broadband coverage with speeds above 30 Mbps by 2020 and for 50% of EU households being subscribed to a broadband service with speeds above 100 Mbps by 2020.</p>
2. Are there laws or policies that regulate the establishment of different service levels for data transmission based on the nature of data transmitted?	Regulation under consideration by government and extensive public debate	<p>There is no specific net neutrality requirement, and general competition law applies.</p> <p>The Broadband Stakeholders Group <www.broadbanduk.org> developed a voluntary code of practice for ISPs and network operators on traffic management transparency for broadband services, last updated in 2013 <www.broadbanduk.org/2011/03/14/broadband-providers-launch-new-traffic-management-transparency-code>.</p> <p>Ofcom, the Independent regulator and competition authority for the UK communications industries, has released a consumer guide <consumers.ofcom.org.uk/internet/internet-traffic-management> and consultation papers <stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/consultations/net-neutrality/statement/> on the issue of traffic management and net neutrality. These indicate that Ofcom does not intend to introduce rules or regulations relating to different service levels for data transmission.</p> <p>With regard to wider European Union legislation, Regulation (EU) 2015/2120 of the European Parliament and of the Council was adopted on 25 November 2015, laying down measures concerning open internet access <eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/NOT/?uri=CELEX:32015R2120>. Article 3.3 of the regulation requires providers to treat all data equally, irrespective of content or the applications or services used to deliver it. However, it also states that this does not prevent providers from implementing "reasonable traffic management measures."</p>
3. Base Indicators		
3.1. Population (millions) (2014)	63	In 2014, the population of the United Kingdom increased by 0.6%. [International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) < www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html >]
3.2. Urban Population (%) (2014)	82%	[World Bank, Data Catalog, Indicators, Urban Population (2015) < data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.URB.TOTL.IN.ZS >]
3.3. Number of Households (millions) (2014)	27	In 2014, the number of households in the United Kingdom increased by 0.6%. [International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) < www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html >]
3.4. Population Density (people per square km) (2014)	267	[World Bank, Data Catalog, Indicators, Population Density (2015) < data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.POP.DNST >]
3.5. Per Capita GDP (US\$ 2014)	\$45,603	In 2014, the per capita gross domestic product (GDP) for the United Kingdom increased by 2.6% to US \$45,603. [World Bank, Data Catalog, Indicators: GDP per capita, current US\$ (2015) < data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD > and GDP growth, annual % (2015) < data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG >]
3.6. IT Service Exports (2014) (billions of US\$)	120.49	In 2014, the value of IT service exports for the UK decreased by -3.8% to US \$120.49 billion. The five-year compound annual growth rate (CAGR) from 2009-2014 was 6.7%. [World Bank, Data Catalog, Indicators: ICT Service Exports US\$ (Dec 2015) < data.worldbank.org/indicator/BX.GSR.CCIS.CD >]
3.7. Personal Computers (2014) (% of households)	91%	In 2014, 90.8% of households in the United Kingdom had personal computers. This is an increase of 3% since 2013, and ranks the United Kingdom 12 out of 183 countries surveyed. The growth from 2013 is above the five-year CAGR from 2009 to 2014 of 2.3%. [International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) < www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/wtid.aspx >]

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4. IT and Network Readiness Indicators		
4.1. ITU ICT Development Index (IDI) (2015) (Score is out of 10 and covers 167 countries)	8.75	The United Kingdom's ITU ICT Development Index (IDI) for 2015 is 8.75 (out of 10), resulting in a rank of 4 (out of 167) countries. The 2015 IDI for the UK increased by 2.9%, and the IDI ranking improved by one place from a rank of 5 since 2013. [International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Measuring the Information Society (Dec 2015) < www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/mis2015.aspx >]
4.2. World Economic Forum Networked Readiness Index (NRI) (2015) (Score is out of 7 and covers 143 countries)	5.62	The United Kingdom has a Networked Readiness Index (NRI) score of 5.62 (out of 7), resulting in a rank of 8 (out of 143) countries and a rank of 6 (out of 31) in the high income: OECD grouping of countries. The 2015 NRI for the United Kingdom increased by 1.5% and improved from a rank of 9 since 2014. [World Economic Forum, Global Information Technology Report (2015) < reports.weforum.org/global-information-technology-report-2015/ >]
4.3. International Connectivity Score (2014) (Score is out of 10 and covers 52 countries)	5.90	The United Kingdom has an International Connectivity Score of 5.9 (out of 10), resulting in a rank of 4 (out of 26) in the innovation-driven grouping of countries. [International Connectivity Scorecard (2013) < www.connectivityscorecard.org >]
5. Internet Users and International Bandwidth		
5.1. Internet Users (millions) (2014)	57	[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) < www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html >]
5.2. Internet Users as Percentage of Population (2014)	90%	In 2014, 90% of the population in the United Kingdom used the Internet, resulting in a ranking of 14 out of 199 countries surveyed. This represents an increase of 2.7% since 2013. The growth from 2013 is below the five-year CAGR from 2009-2014 of 2.8%. [International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) < www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/wtid.aspx >] Note: There may be some variations as to how countries calculate this. Some countries base this upon all or part of the population, such as between 16 and 72 years of age.
5.3. International Internet Bandwidth (2014) (bits per second per Internet user)	429,830	The International Internet Bandwidth (per Internet user) of the United Kingdom has increased by 22% since 2013. The growth from 2013 is below the five-year CAGR from 2009-2014 of 34.7%. [International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) < www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html >]
5.4. International Internet Bandwidth (2014) (total gigabits per second [Gbps] per country)	25,000	The United Kingdom has increased its International Internet Bandwidth by 25% since 2013 to 25,000 Gbps, and is ranked 1 out of 215 countries surveyed. The growth from 2013 is below the five-year CAGR from 2008-2013 of 38%. [International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) < www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html >]
6. Fixed Broadband		
6.1. Fixed Broadband Subscriptions (millions) (2014)	23	United Kingdom has increased the number of fixed broadband subscribers by 4% since 2013 to 23 million, and is ranked 7 out of 215 countries surveyed. The growth from 2013 is below the five-year CAGR from 2009-2014 of 5.5%. [International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) < www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html >]
6.2. Fixed Broadband Subscriptions as % of households (2014)	85%	[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) < www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html >] Note: This may be skewed by business usage in some countries.

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6.3. Fixed Broadband Subscriptions as % of population (2014)	37%	<p>The United Kingdom has increased its fixed broadband subscriptions (as a % of the population) by 2.4% since 2013, which is below the five-year CAGR from 2009-2014 of 5.2%. This ranks the UK 12 out of 215 countries surveyed.</p> <p>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) <www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html>]</p> <p>The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) figures below present a breakdown on the type of fixed broadband connections in United Kingdom.</p> <p>In the OECD during 2014, United Kingdom was ranked 8 out of 34 for fixed broadband subscribers as a percentage of population [OECD Broadband Subscribers (July 2015) <www.oecd.org/sti/ict/broadband>]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSL: 29.7% • Cable: 7% • Fiber/LAN: 0% Note: In the United Kingdom, no fiber data is available as DSL includes all fiber technologies (FTTH, FTTP, FTTB and FTTC) because the breakdown between these technologies is not available yet. • Fixed wireless: 0% <p>Total: 36.8% (23.7 million subscriptions). The OECD average total for 2014 was 28.2%. United Kingdom's fixed broadband growth for 2014 was 7.5% (ranked 21 out of 34 for growth), and marginally below the OECD average growth of 7.7%.</p> <p>Note: From July 2015 OECD adjusted its definitions of fixed and mobile broadband by transferring the categories satellite and fixed wireless from mobile to fixed broadband.</p> <p>Note: Fiber subscriptions data includes FTTH, FTTP and FTTB and excludes FTTC.</p> <p>Note: There may be minor variations in the ITU and OECD subscriber totals due to definition or timing differences.</p>
6.4. Fixed Broadband Subscriptions as % of Internet users (2014)	40%	[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (June 2014) < www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html >]
7. Mobile Broadband		
7.1. Mobile Cellular Subscriptions (millions) (2014)	78	<p>In 2014, the United Kingdom decreased the number of mobile cellular subscriptions by -0.3% and is ranked 19 out of 215 countries surveyed. The number of subscriptions account for 124% of the population.</p> <p>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) <www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html>]</p> <p>Note: This figure may be inflated due to multiple subscriptions per head of population, but excludes dedicated mobile broadband devices (such as 3G data cards, tablets, etc.).</p>

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7.2. Active Mobile Broadband Subscriptions per 100 inhabitants (2014)	89	<p>The United Kingdom has increased the number of active mobile-broadband subscriptions (as a % of the population) by 2% since 2013. This ranks the UK 19 out of 215 countries surveyed.</p> <p>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) <www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html>]</p> <p>Note: This refers to the sum of standard mobile-broadband and dedicated mobile-broadband subscriptions to the public Internet. It covers actual subscribers, not potential subscribers, even though the latter may have broadband-enabled handsets.</p> <p>The OECD figures below present a breakdown on the type of mobile broadband connections in United Kingdom.</p> <p>For 2014, United Kingdom's OECD rank was 12 out of 34 for mobile wireless broadband subscribers as a percentage of population [OECD Broadband Subscribers (July 2015) <www.oecd.org/sti/ict/broadband>]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard mobile broadband subscription: 76.8% • Dedicated mobile data subscriptions: 8.1% <p>Total: 84.8% (54.7 million subscriptions). The OECD average total for 2014 was 81.3%.</p> <p>United Kingdom's mobile broadband growth for 2014 was 7.5% (ranked 27 out of 34 for growth), well below the OECD average growth of 21.1%.</p> <p>Note: From July 2015, OECD adjusted its definitions of fixed and mobile broadband by transferring the categories satellite and fixed wireless from mobile to fixed broadband.</p> <p>Note: The OECD figures include mobile data subscriptions, which are not as consistently reported in the ITU indicators.</p>
7.3. Number of Active Mobile Broadband Subscriptions (millions) (2014)	56	<p>In 2014, the United Kingdom has increased the number of active mobile-broadband subscriptions by 2% and is ranked 8 out of 215.</p> <p>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) <www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html>]</p>