Today, high-speed broadband networks support innovation throughout the economy much as electricity and transport networks spurred innovation in the past. Innovations such as smart electrical grids, tele-medicine, intelligent transport networks, interactive learning and cloud computing will require fast communication networks to operate efficiently.

Definitions

**Broadband** includes all subscriptions to DSL lines, cable modem, fibre-to-the-premises (e.g. house, apartment) and fibre-to-the-building subscribers (e.g. apartment LAN) which are capable of download speeds of at least 256 kbit/s. Other includes fixed wireless technologies (satellite, LMDS, MMDS, WiMAX [fixed] and other fixed-wireless transport technologies) with speeds faster than 256 kbit/s to end users. It does not include 3G mobile technologies and Wi-Fi.
The two leading technologies currently used to provide high-speed Internet access are digital subscriber lines (DSL) and cable modem. Other broadband access technologies include fibre-optic lines installed to users’ homes or to their buildings. Fixed wireless connections and satellite are also available but represent less than 2% of all broadband subscriptions. The data for broadband subscribers include business and residential connections. Broadband delivered over mobile networks is not included but will continue to evolve as an important platform for connectivity and innovation. The OECD has developed a new measure of wireless broadband connectivity which will help policy makers follow growth in this segment.

How to read this figure
The speed of the Czech DSL offer increased by almost 70% and its price fell by over 35% during the period.


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