

## Belgian Communications shuts down 5G base stations for power outages

Is 5G a 'weak point' of Belgium's Digital Economy?

The sluggish rollout of 5G and fibre broadband is the 'weak point' of Belgium's digital economy, as a new report by the Economy Ministry highlights that the country is lagging behind the rest of Europe.

How many people in Belgium use 5G in 2023?

It was estimated that at least 40% of households in Belgium lived in an area covered by 5G mobile technology in 2023. This was a 'significant increase' on 30% coverage in 2022, but still behind the European average of almost 90%. The Economy Ministry's report is based on 2023 data. BIPT provided updated figures on the 5G rollout in June 2024.

Does Belgium have 5G?

BIPT provided updated figures on the 5G rollout in June 2024. It noted that 95% of households had outdoor 5G coverage and 76% have indoor coverage. While Belgium is catching up with the rest of the EU, the Economy Ministry noted that the 5G rollout has been delayed in recent years 'largely due to the late completion of the spectrum auction.'

How many households in Belgium should be covered by 5G?

By 2028, 75% of households should be covered, the Ministry added. It was estimated that at least 40% of households in Belgium lived in an area covered by 5G mobile technology in 2023. This was a 'significant increase' on 30% coverage in 2022, but still behind the European average of almost 90%. The Economy Ministry's report is based on 2023 data.

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The slow rollout of 5G and fibre broadband is the 'weak point' of Belgium's digital economy, according to the Economy Ministry.

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