

United Kingdom Profile (2018)

Various statistics (Latest data available: 2018)

Fixed-telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	47.6207
Mobile-cellular subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	117.549
Fixed (wired)-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	39.597
Mobile-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	96.8704
Households with a computer (%)	91.67
Households with Internet access at home (%)	93.99
Individuals using the Internet (%)	94.8967

Regulatory Authority (Latest data available: 2018)

Please provide the name of the Head of the Regulatory Authority	Sharon White
Please provide the exact title of the Head of the Regulatory Authority.	Chief Executive
Name of the telecom/ICT regulator	Ofcom

Policy Maker (Latest data available: 2018)

Please provide the name and contact details of the main Policy-Maker in charge of telecommunications/ICTs	The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport
---	--

Level of Competition (Latest data available: 2014)

Cable modem	C*
Cable Television	C*
Data	C
Domestic fixed long distance	C
Fixed Satellite Services (FSS)	C
Fixed Wireless Broadband	C
GMPCS (FSS/MSS)2010	C
IMT (3G, 4G, etc.)	C
International Gateways	
International Fixed Long Distance	C
Internet Services	C
Leased Lines	P
Wireless Local Loop	P
Local Fixed Line Services	C
Mobile	C
Mobile Satellite Services (MSS)	C
Paging2005	P
VSAT	C
DSL	C

M: Monopoly
P: Partial competition (year when competition was introduced)
C: Full competition (year when competition was introduced)
N: N/A

Institutional Details (Latest data available: 2018)

Regulator autonomous in decision making	No
Who is responsible for approving the budget of the Regulator? [2010]	The Ofcom Board
Legal document creating the regulator	Communications Act 2003
Sources of regulator's budget and % financed from each source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licence fees, percentage: 18.6%, • Spectrum fees, percentage: 39.7%, • Regulatory fees, percentage: 2.4%, • Regulated telecom operators • Regulated telecom operators percentage: 31.7%, percentage of operator revenue (turnover);, • Other • Other, Source: 7.6%, percentage:;
Regulator also regulates other utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes If Yes, specify utilities regulated: Spectrum management. Broadcasting.,
Reporting requirements of the regulator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual report to the public • Report to Board of ICT regulator • Report to Government • Annual report to Sector Ministry • Other Indicate: Select Committees of Legislature. The annual reports to the sector Ministry is also required to be provided to the Legislature by the Minister.,
Year separate regulator created	2003

Structure Regulator (Latest data available: 2018)

Please provide the name of the Head of the Regulatory Authority	Sharon White
Please provide the exact title of the Head of the Regulatory Authority.	Chief Executive
Regulator is a collegial body	No
If Yes, please provide the total number of members/commissioners (including the Head). [2009]	9
Is the Head of the Commission also responsible for day-to-day administrative matters? [2014]	Yes
What is the normal period of appointment for the members and the Head of the Regulatory Authority? [2010]	There is no fixed period
Please provide the total number of staff in the Regulatory Authority.	828

Regulatory Functions (Latest data available: 2018)

Entity in charge of licensing	R Op M*	M: General authorisation regime in telecoms.
Entity in charge of interconnection rates	R Op M*	M: Some interconnection rates are regulated, others are subject to commercial agreement.
Entity in charge of price regulation	R Op	
Entity in charge of technical standards setting	M*	M: Technical standards for use with the RTTE Directive are normally generated by the European standards organisations ETSI (telecom-specific) and CENELECT (electrical and EMC)
Entity in charge of radio frequency allocation and assignment	R	
Spectrum Monitoring and Enforcement	R	
Entity in charge of numbering	R	
Entity in charge of type approval	M*	M: Under the RTTE Directive (99/5/EC) there is no type approval. The Directive sets out essential requirements that equipment has to comply with but manufacturers can self-declare compliance without using an approval body (unless it is radio equipment)
Entity in charge of service quality monitoring	R	
Entity in charge of universal service/access	R Op	

Quality of service standards setting	R Op	
Entity in charge of enforcement of quality of service obligations	R	
Broadcasting (sound transmission)	R	
Entity in charge of broadcasting content	R	
Entity in charge of Information Technology	S N M*	M: Department for Trade and Industry
Entity in charge of Internet content	O R N M*	M: It depends on what sort of content is in question. Ofcom is the regulator for TV-like content on the internet. A number of other regulators have regulatory powers for other internet content (e.g. the Advertising Standards Authority is responsible for adverts on the internet), but there is no single body responsible for regulating content on the internet.

S: Sector Ministry

O: Other Ministry or Government body

R: Regulatory Authority

Op: Operator

N: Not regulated

M: If more than one entity or another body is involved in this function, please explain

Universal Service - services covered and operator obligations (Latest data available: 2014)

Definition of universal service/access exists	Yes
Universal access/service policy adopted	Yes
Voice services included in Universal service/access definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fixed line private residential service as part of universal service definition • Fixed line public payphone service as part of universal service definition
Internet services included in Universal service/access definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dial-up Internet access as part of universal service definition
Other services included in Universal service/access definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency services as part of universal service definition • Services for impaired/ elderly • Directory services as part of universal service definition
Operators under universal access/service obligation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fixed-line operators with SMP
Operators/service providers required to offer below-cost prices	Yes

Financing of Universal Service activities and/or Universal Service Funds (Latest data available: 2014)

Means of financing operator(s) universal access/service obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-subsidy between own services • Other Explain: The Universal Service Directive requires that where national regulators find that an operator is subject to an unfair burden in providing USOs, a mechanism should be introduced either to compensate the USO provider(s) from public funds, or to share the net cost of USOs between communications providers. At this time, Ofcom has not taken the view that there is such an unfair burden.,
Other financing mechanisms for the provision of Universal service	No
If Yes, please explain	
Operational Universal Service Fund	No
If Yes, when?	
Operators/ service providers required to contribute to USF	
Means of calculating USF contribution amounts	
USF financed by other sources	
USF budget financing by source (in percentage)	
Regulator administrating USF	
If No, name the entity responsible	

Interconnection issues (Latest data available: 2018)

Interconnection charging principle adopted • Symmetric

If asymmetric charging, how it was decided?

Approach used to regulate interconnection prices (Latest data available:)

Approach used to regulate fixed termination rates

Approach used to regulate mobile termination rates

LRIC: LRIC cost model
FDC: FDC cost model
B: Benchmarking
O: Other
N: None

NGN (Latest data available: 2018)

Stage of introduction of NGN system by operators • Implementation

Cost model used (or planned) to calculate costs/tariffs of NGN Services • Other please specify: LRIC+ for access, where a charge control applies,

NGN - Regulation of IP networks (Latest data available: 2018)

Regulations that govern the use of IP networks for Data Services No

Regulations that govern the use of IP networks for Voice Services I

USO: Regulatory arrangements subject to universal service obligations
I: Regulatory interconnection arrangements with networks using switching circuits
B: Banning of services based on IP
No: No regulatory arrangements defined at present
O: Other