



Commission for
Communications Regulation

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ComReg issues market report for Q2 2013

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) today released its Quarterly Report on the Irish Telecommunications market for the period (1 April to 30 June) Q2 2013.

Average fixed broadband speeds continue to increase. In Q2 approximately 37.5% of all fixed broadband subscriptions were equal to or greater than 10 Mbps up from 30.1% since Q2 2012. 29.9% of all fixed broadband subscriptions were equal to or greater than 30 Mbps up from 19.6% in Q2 2012. Broadband subscriptions (fixed and mobile) increased by 0.7% compared to the same period in 2012.

The estimated household (fixed and mobile) broadband penetration rate at the end of Q 2 was 65%.

The mobile market accounted for approximately 73.7% of all voice and internet subscriptions (fixed and mobile), with fixed market subscriptions (voice and internet) representing the remaining 26.3%.

ComReg has begun to publish information on SIMs used for so-called Machine to Machine (M2M) communications which accounted for 6.3% of all mobile subscriptions. Such technologies involve data communication between devices or systems in which human intervention is not a part. They may encompass either wireless or wired communications, or both. Specific examples include traffic lights, alarm systems, ATM machines and vehicle & consignment tracking. ComReg is gathering this new data in order to assess future regulatory needs for M2M connections.

Total quarterly electronic communications revenues were €896.1 million for the quarter and decreased by 4.6 % compared to Q2 of 2012. Within the mobile sector, voice and SMS revenues are decreasing while mobile data revenues are increasing.

Average Revenue Per User (ARPU) for mobile services in Q2 2013 was €27 per month, down from €29 in Q2 2012. The drop in ARPU is due, in part, to lower priced mobile plans and increased sales of bundled products.

There were 5,438,144 mobile service subscriptions at the end of June which was a decrease of 0.3% on the previous quarter. Ireland's mobile penetration rate for the quarter was 118.3%.

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