



Commission for  
**Communications Regulation**

**10/03/2016**

## **ComReg issues Quarterly Report for Q4 2015**

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) today released its Quarterly Report on the Electronic Communications market for the period (1 Sept to 31 Dec.) Q4 2015.

Fixed Broadband subscriptions increased by 1.2% on the previous quarter with 4.0 % annual growth and stood at 1.31 million broadband subscriptions at the end of December.

The estimated household (fixed and mobile) broadband penetration rate at the end of Q4 was 83%, higher than the EU average of 80%.

Average broadband speeds continue to increase. In Q4 2015 approximately 68.8% of all fixed broadband subscriptions were equal to or greater than 10 Mbps up from 63.8% in Q4 2014. 56.2% of all fixed broadband subscriptions were equal to or greater than 30 Mbps, up from 45.4% in Q4 2014.

The number of fixed voice service subscriptions has decreased by 0.7% since last quarter to 1.48 million. Total voice traffic minutes increased by 1.2% from the previous quarter but were 0.1% lower than Q4 2014. Mobile minutes form the majority of voice minutes at 73.8% with fixed minutes making up 26.2%. Mobile voice minutes increased by 1.4% this quarter while fixed voice minutes rose by 0.7% during the quarter under review.

The total number of text messages (SMS) sent by mobile users in Ireland was over 1.60 billion in Q4 2015, down by 2.6% on the previous quarter and by 14.8% on Q4 2014.

During the quarter under review 26.7% of all mobile subscribers actively used 4G mobile networks compared to 20.6% for Q3 2015. Data usage continues to grow, increasing by 56.6% in the year to Q4 2015.

In Q4 2015 mobile average revenue per user (ARPU) was €24.62 per month, down from an ARPU of €25.00 per month in Q4 2014. The continued fall in ARPU is due in part to increased sales of bundled products and reductions in mobile roaming and termination rates.

Mobile subscriptions (excluding mobile broadband and M2M) increased by 0.36% compared to Q3 2015. Mobile broadband subscriptions decreased by 4.5% on the last quarter and by 11.4% on Q4 2015. M2M subscriptions increased by 4.4% compared to Q3 2015 and 21.1% in the year to Q4 2015.

**ENDS**

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