

## RootMetrics May 5G scorecard

# A look at 5G performance across 4 UK cities in 1H 2021

5G in the UK is growing fast. To provide the best view of the consumer's real-world 5G experience, we looked at both 5G-only and 5G mixed mode results and combined those into one view of Everyday 5G performance.

Our May 5G Scorecard looks at Everyday 5G availability and speed results across four recently tested cities in the first half of 2021: Birmingham, Bristol, Coventry, and London. For additional performance context, the maps below also show 5G-only results and overall median download speeds recorded on all network technologies.

To learn more about Everyday 5G results, see below or read our [new blog](#).

### High-level storylines

**EE** registered the highest Everyday 5G availability in three cities and the fastest Everyday 5G median download speed in three cities (including a tie with O2 in Birmingham). More good news is that EE's Everyday 5G availability improved in three cities since 2H 2020 and remained similar in the fourth (Birmingham).

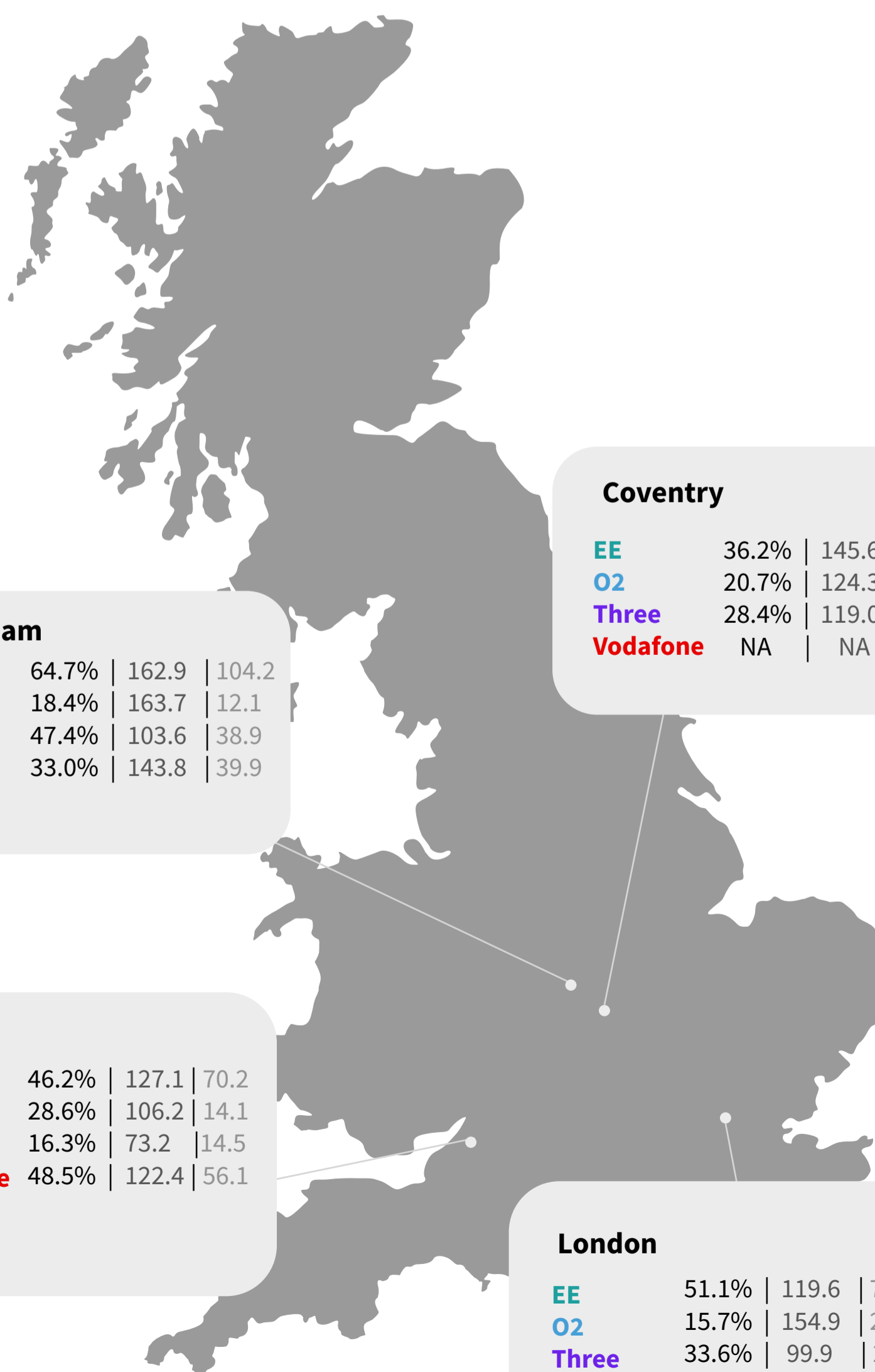
**O2** showed impressive Everyday 5G median download speeds, but its Everyday 5G availability has room to improve, topping out at 28.6% in Bristol. The good news is that O2 improved its Everyday 5G availability and Everyday 5G median download speeds in all four cities since 2H 2020.

**Three's** Everyday 5G median download speeds were strong but not quite as fast as those of the other operators in each city. Three's Everyday 5G availability, meanwhile, showed nice growth in each city since 2H 2020, with its high of 47.4% in Birmingham the second-highest in the city.

**Vodafone** didn't register any 5G in Coventry, but its Everyday 5G speeds were fast in the other three cities, ranging from 121.9 Mbps to 143.8 Mbps. Vodafone's Everyday 5G availability was particularly good in Bristol (48.5%) and increased in its three cities with 5G since 2H 2020.

### Everyday 5G availability, Everyday 5G median download speeds, and overall median download speeds

● Everyday 5G availability(%) ● Everyday 5G median download speed (Mbps) ● Overall median download speed (Mbps)



**Birmingham**

EE	64.7%	162.9	104.2
O2	18.4%	163.7	12.1
Three	47.4%	103.6	38.9
Vodafone	33.0%	143.8	39.9

**Coventry**

EE	36.2%	145.6	82.3
O2	20.7%	124.3	33.9
Three	28.4%	119.0	23.1
Vodafone	NA	NA	21.5

**Bristol**

EE	46.2%	127.1	70.2
O2	28.6%	106.2	14.1
Three	16.3%	73.2	14.5
Vodafone	48.5%	122.4	56.1

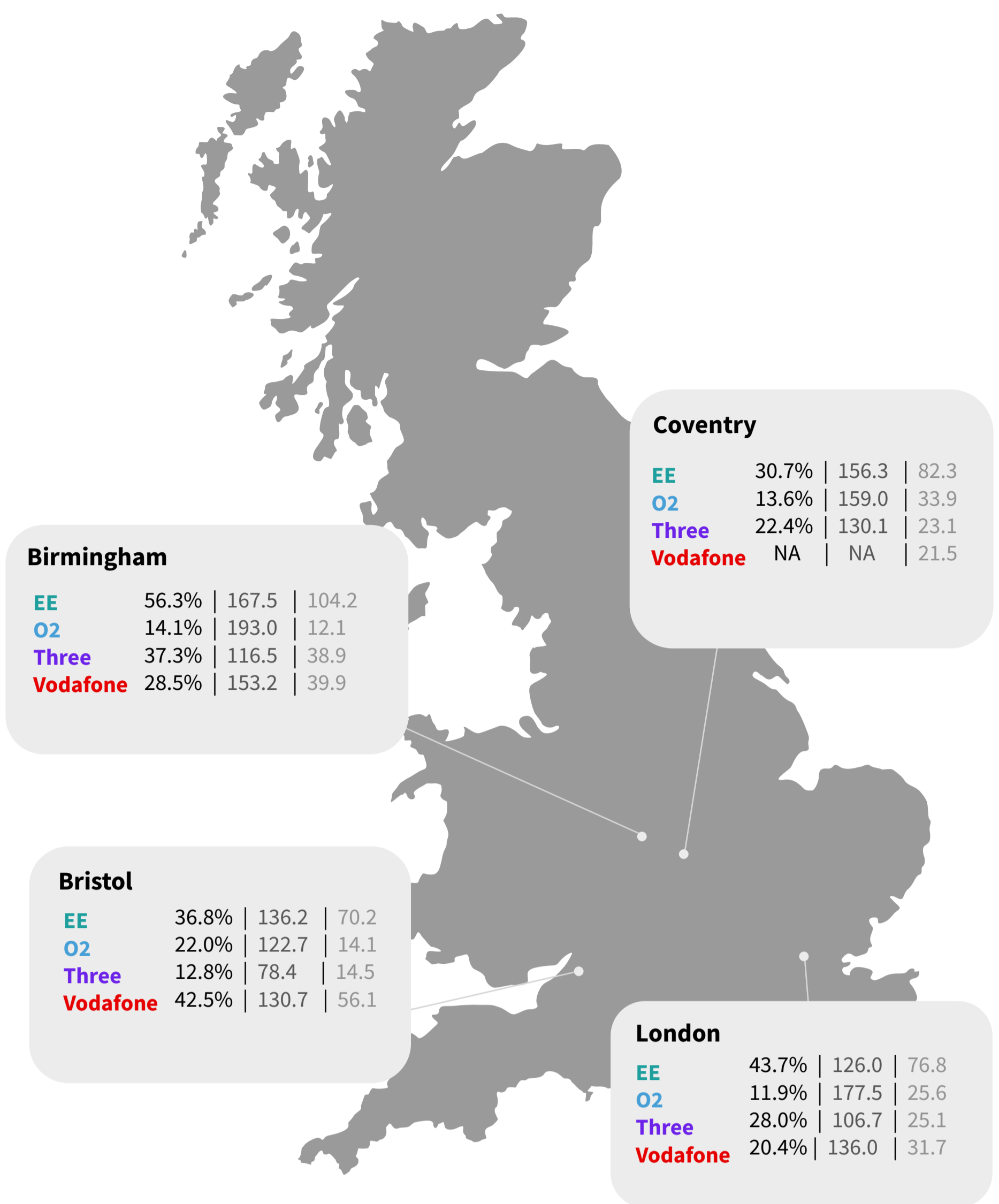
**London**

EE	51.1%	119.6	76.8
O2	15.7%	154.9	25.6
Three	33.6%	99.9	25.1
Vodafone	27.7%	121.9	31.7



## 5G-only availability, 5G-only median download speeds, and overall median download speeds

● 5G-only availability(%) ● 5G-only median download speed (Mbps) ● Overall median download speed (Mbps)



Contact us for additional performance metrics and insights.

## Improvement stories since 2H 2020 – by operator

### EE in Bristol

EE's Everyday 5G availability in Bristol improved from 36.1% to 46.2% since 2H 2020, while its Everyday 5G median download speed in the city jumped by 32.7 Mbps, going from 94.4 Mbps to a much speedier 127.1 Mbps in 1H 2021.

### O2 in Bristol

O2's best improvement came in Bristol, where O2 didn't register any 5G results in 2H 2020. This time, however, O2 had Everyday 5G availability of 28.6% while clocking an Everyday 5G median download speed of 106.2 Mbps.

### Three in Coventry

Three's Everyday 5G availability in Coventry increased by 17.6% since 2H 2020, moving from 10.8% to 28.4%. Three's Everyday 5G median download speed also saw a boost in the city, increasing from a strong 100.8 Mbps to an even better 119.0 Mbps.

### Vodafone in Bristol

Vodafone made strong progress in Bristol since 2H 2020. Its Everyday 5G availability went from 34.3% in 2H 2020 to 48.5% this time, while Vodafone's Everyday 5G median download speed in Bristol jumped from 105.7 Mbps to 122.4 Mbps.

### A note about Everyday 5G results

The Everyday 5G results in this scorecard include a combination of results recorded on both 5G-only and "5G mixed mode," the user experience of switching between 5G and 4G LTE during the same data activity.

With 5G growing fast and users switching between 5G-only and 5G mixed mode more and more often, Everyday 5G results offer the most accurate picture of the daily 5G experience when connected to 5G at least a portion of the time. We've also included 5G-only results to provide a look at how 5G would perform if it were ubiquitous today.

The maps above also show each operator's overall median download speeds. Overall median download speeds reflect speeds recorded on all network technologies, including 5G, 5G mixed mode, 4G LTE, and any sub-4G technologies. Until 5G becomes more widely available and reaches a point of ubiquity, overall median download speeds reflect a typical speed experience when moving back and forth between different network technologies.

To learn more about Everyday 5G results, check out our new [blog](#).

## The fine print about our 5G scorecard results

The results in the scorecard offer a high-level snapshot of what we saw for each operator across four recently tested cities. These results do not imply which operator is offering the best 5G performance as a whole in any of the four cities included in this scorecard, across or within any of the 16 cities we test every six months, across the UK as a whole, or over a longer period of time.

To learn more about the state of 5G in the UK, read our latest report on [5G in the UK](#). You can also [contact us](#) to request additional metrics or information.