## C H O R U S

# Q4 FY25 CONNECTIONS UPDATE

## **Q4 FY25 overview**

#### > Fibre connections (including non-address points and LFC areas) increased 8k (Q3 FY25: +9k) to 1,115,000

- in Chorus fibre areas, an 8k increase in fibre broadband connections more than offset a 6k reduction in copper lines
- Chorus completed its Big Fibre Boost for retail partners in June, lifting home fibre 50/10Mbps plans to 100/20Mbps and 300/100Mbps plans to 500/100Mbps at no extra wholesale cost
- Home Fibre Starter (now 100/20Mbps) connections grew by net 11k connections with 67% of growth from new and
  offnet addresses
- residential connections of 1Gbps and above grew 1k with *Hyperfibre* connections reaching ~5k

#### > Chorus' fibre footprint now covers 1,532,000 addresses (excluding LFC areas)

- fibre passed another 7,000 addresses in Q4 (Q3: +5k), including fibre to ~2k existing homes in smaller communities
- uptake in UFB2 areas lifted from 61% to 62%
- overall fibre uptake grew 0.1% to 72.1% of passed addresses in Q4 (Q3: +0.3%)

#### > Total fixed line connections\* declined by 7k (Q3: -7k) and now total 1,207,000

- copper broadband connections declined by 10k (Q3: -10k) and copper voice connections declined 5k (Q3: -5k)
- copper lines in non-fibre areas declined by 7k (Q3: -5k) with 68k remaining

#### > Average monthly data usage on fibre grew to 671GB in June (March:642GB)

- average fibre usage was consistently over 670GB in April, May and June
- the proportion of terabyte users (i.e. consuming 1,000GB+ a month) was ~19% in June (March: ~17%)
- record daily usage of 30 petabytes on 8 June coincided with a Fortnite gaming update

\*includes ~2,000 broadband connections Chorus is subsidising for lower socio-economic households

## **Copper comprises less than 8% of Chorus connections**

	31 March 2024	30 June 2024	30 Sept 2024	31 Dec 2024	31 March 2025	30 June 2025
Baseband copper (no broadband)	51,000	45,000	40,000	34,000	29,000	24,000
Copper ADSL (includes naked)	62,000	56,000	49,000	44,000	39,000	34,000
VDSL (includes naked)	62,000	55,000	49,000	44,000	39,000	34,000
Data services (copper)	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	NM	NM
Fibre broadband (GPON)	1,064,000	1,074,000	1,083,000	1,089,000	1,098,000	1,106,000
Fibre premium (P2P)	10,000	10,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000
Total connections*	1,250,000	1,241,000	1,231,000	1,221,000	1,214,000	1,207,000

\*includes ~2,000 broadband connections Chorus is subsidising for lower socio-economic households

Copper connections declined 15k in Q4 and total 92k

Fibre connections grew 8k in Q4 and total 1,115k

## Fibre uptake reaches 72.1%

## 72.1% fibre uptake across 1,532,000 passed addresses\*

- uptake grew +0.1% in Q4
- +8k fibre connections to addresses\*\*
- +7k addresses passed in Q4, including ~2k addresses as part of Chorus' fibre expansion programme to smaller communities
- 13k installations in Q4 (Q3:13k)
- 240k inactive fibre sockets (Q3: 235k)



\*based on independent address data and Chorus network data for addresses passed by fibre; excludes Chorus fibre in Local Fibre Company (LFC) areas \*\* includes ~7k fibre premium connections to addresses; excludes smart location (GPON) connections and connections in LFC areas \*\*\* not active on 30 June 2025

## Fibre uptake by city

- **Auckland** uptake down 0.1% to 76.3% with address growth outpacing connection growth
- **Dunedin** uptake grew 0.1% to 76.5%
- Wellington uptake grew 0.1% to 70.9%

Note: uptake is measured across "urban areas" as defined by Statistics NZ, rather than the original UFB rollout areas

#### Uptake, by urban area, for fibre passed addresses



## Fibre 'boost' completed for more than 700k homes

- *Home Fibre Starter* (now 100/20Mbps) connections grew by net 11k connections to 88k with 67% of gross adds from new • fibre connections or offnet (up 1% from Q3), 26% from higher speed plans, and 6% from legacy low-speed plans
- residential connections of 1Gbps and above grew 1k with *Hyperfibre* connections reaching  $\sim$ 5k ٠
- Chorus completed its Big Fibre Boost for retail partners in June, lifting home fibre 50/10Mbps plans to 100/20Mbps and ٠ 300/100Mbps plans to 500/100Mbps at no extra wholesale cost. Retailers are now enabling the upgrade for their customers.

**Business** 



#### Residential

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### **Connection changes by zone**\* (indicative as at 30 June)

Other fibre company (LFC) zone	Copper lines (no broadband)	5,000	Copper connections are declining as Chorus retires its copper network and customers	-15	-5 5	5 15
	Copper broadband lines	6,000	migrate to Local Fibre Company and fixed	Q4 FY24 Q1 FY25	<mark>-1</mark> -1	
	Fibre broadband lines (GPON)	4,000	wireless networks.	Q2 FY25	-2 -1 <mark>1</mark> -2 -1	
	TOTAL	15,000		Q3 FY25 Q4 FY25	- <mark>1</mark> - <mark>1</mark> -1	
Non-fibre addresses (i.e. Chorus fibre not available)	Copper lines (no broadband)	12,000	Ongoing decline in copper connections as	Q4 FY24	-5 -2	
	Copper broadband lines	56,000	customers migrate to alternative mobile/fixed wireless/satellite networks.	Q1 FY25 Q2 FY25	-5 -1 -4 -2	
	TOTAL	68,000		Q3 FY25 Q4 FY25	-4 -1 -5 -2	
Chorus fibre zone	Copper lines (no broadband)	7,000	Covers all addresses outside of LFC UFB rollout	Q4 FY24	-7 -3 9	
	Copper broadband lines	6,000	zone where Chorus fibre is available. Fibre footprint is growing as a result of network	Q1 FY25 Q2 FY25	6 -4 9 -4 -3 6	
	Fibre broadband lines (GPON)	1,099,000	expansion and new property development. Copper connections are reducing as Chorus	Q3 FY25 44 FY25	-5 -4 8 -4 -2 8	
	TOTAL	1,112,000	retires its copper network.	Copper line or		broadband
Fibre broadband						

\* Excludes ~12k fibre premium and smart location connections

Quarterly change ('000s) by zone

## Just 92k copper lines remaining; 68k outside fibre footprint



#### Chorus' fibre zone:

 13k copper lines in service, with full withdrawal expected by mid-2026

#### Non-fibre zones:

- 68k copper lines remaining, down 26% in FY25
- Chorus' fibre extension rollout (~9k premises) is largely complete with 4.5k premises ready for service and 1.2k connected to date

## Monthly data usage on fibre consistently above 670GB in Q4



Monthly average data usage per connection\*

- monthly average data usage on fibre lifted to 671 gigabytes (GB) in June vs 642GB in March
- the proportion of fibre connections using more than 1 terabyte of data was  $\sim 19\%$  vs  $\sim 17\%$  in March
- copper usage was 312GB (March: 289GB)

#### Average throughput in June (2020-2025), by time of day



### **Commerce Commission monitoring shows benefits of fibre**



Source: Measuring Broadband NZ, Report 24, June 2025: Figure 15

Average latency at peak time (idle),

#### Time to download 79.5GB gaming file via Xbox Live, by broadband technology



Source: Measuring Broadband NZ, Report 24, June 2025: Figure 22

## **Telco sector regulatory review announced in June**

#### > Ministry for Regulation review:

• **Purpose**: to ensure that the current regulation remains fit for purpose in light of technology and market changes

• In scope:

- o shareholder cap and constitutional restrictions
- consideration of telecommunications service obligations (TSO)
- methodology for allocating the Telecommunications Development Levy (TDL) across telecommunications service providers and consumers
- Retail Service Quality (RSQ) regulation (Part 7 of the Act)
- Fibre Fixed Line Access (FFLA) services regulation (Part 6 of the Act)
- Fibre service regulations (Part 4AA of the Act), noting that the vertical separation of wholesale and retail fibre services is out of scope.



Note: this review is separate from the Commerce Commission's copper services investigation (draft decision to deregulate) and the Input Methodologies review.