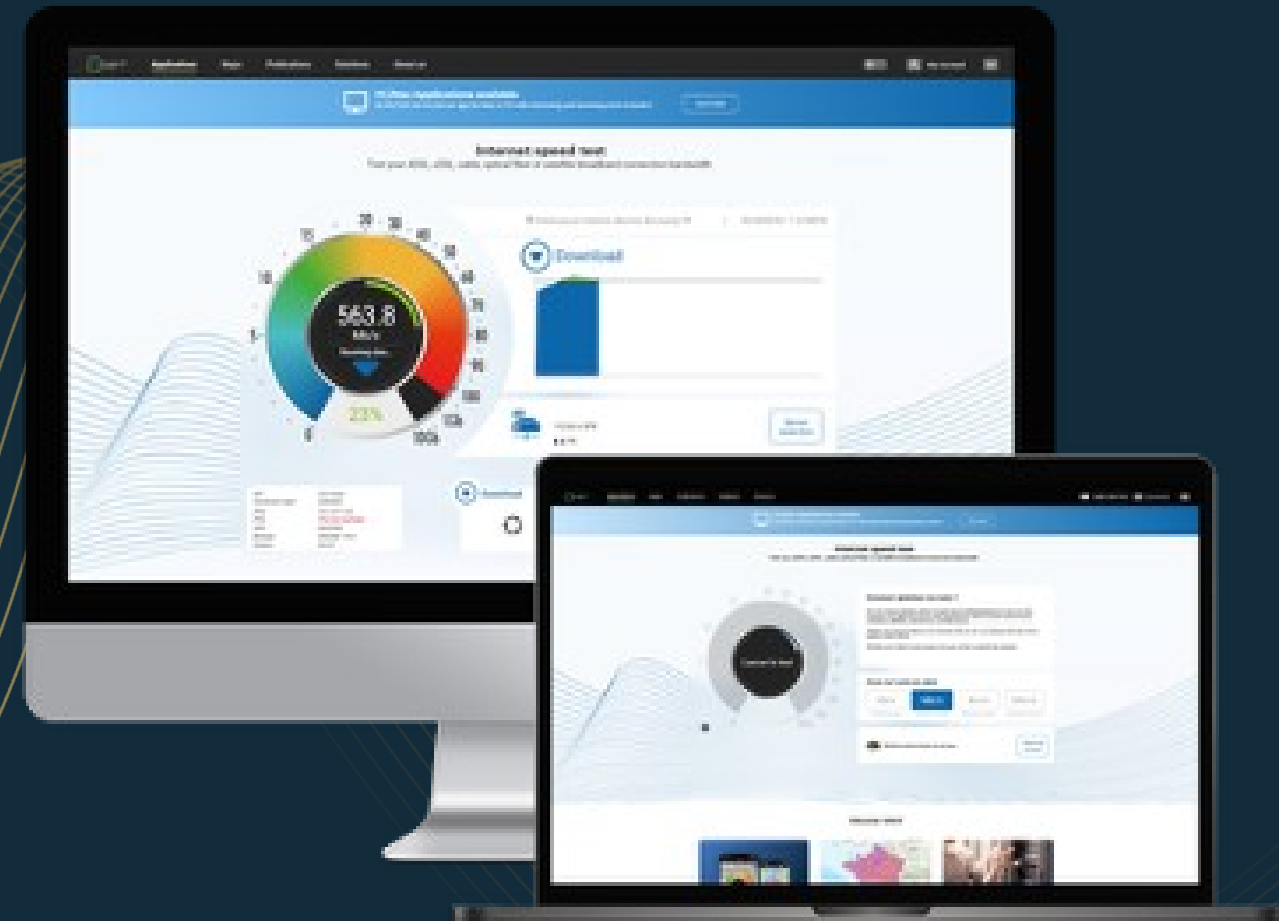




Barometer of fixed Internet connections in United Arab Emirates

04/01/2025 - 03/31/2026



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1. Introducing nPerf



An independent authority in network performance

nPerf is an independent French Internet performance measurement platform, powered by real user experience. By turning millions of individual measurements into connectivity insights, nPerf helps operators enhance their networks and contributes to building a faster, more reliable Internet for everyone.

 **300k+** tests daily
worldwide.

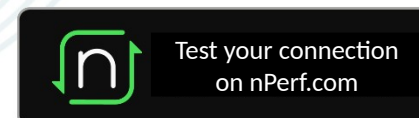
 **26Md+** coverage
scans in total.

 **3k+** servers all
around the world.

A comprehensive suite of tools to measure real-world connectivity

nPerf provides a complete ecosystem of complete measurement tools designed to capture the true quality of fixed, mobile, and Wi-Fi connections with precision, reaching speeds of up to 10 Gbps.

Users test. Operators learn. Everyone benefits.



2. Executive Summary



The subscribers of Etisalat and du enjoyed the best Fixed Internet performances in 2026 in United Arab Emirates.

Fixed Internet performance in United Arab Emirates

	du	Etisalat
▼ Download bitrates (Mb/s)	217.23	144.91
▲ Upload bitrates (Mb/s)	69.26	62.40
◀▶ Latency (ms)	56.39	38.03
🌐 Web browsing (%)	63.00	64.96
📺 Youtube streaming (%)	75.12	78.14
🏆 nPerf Score (nPoints)	92 097	94 895

Source : nPerf.com



Best Fixed Internet performance
in 2026



Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Podium



Source : nPerf.com

The subscribers of Etisalat enjoyed the best WIFI Internet in 2026 in United Arab Emirates.

Fixed Internet performance in United Arab Emirates

	du	Etisalat
 Download bitrates (Mb/s)	150.91	115.60
 Upload bitrates (Mb/s)	61.44	60.03
 Latency (ms)	52.19	34.44
 Web browsing (%)	65.94	66.71
 Youtube streaming (%)	78.54	80.32
 nPerf Score (nPoints)	92 344	96 010

Source : nPerf.com

The subscribers of Etisalat and du enjoyed the best FTTH Internet in 2026 in United Arab Emirates.

Fixed Internet performance in United Arab Emirates

	du	Etisalat
 Download bitrates (Mb/s)	509.87	407.63
 Upload bitrates (Mb/s)	225.59	208.67
 Latency (ms)	28.20	24.50
 Web browsing (%)	73.62	74.51
 Youtube streaming (%)	84.98	88.31
 nPerf Score (nPoints)	133 380	135 785

Source : nPerf.com

The best fixed-line Internet performances in the United Arab Emirates for 2026 reveal a highly competitive landscape between Etisalat and du, with both operators delivering strong network performance across fixed-line connections. This year's nPerf barometer highlights a significant shift in the balance of power, as Etisalat closes the gap and rises to the top of the overall rankings, while du maintains its leadership on key speed indicators. The UAE fixed-line sector is entering a new era of intense rivalry, driven by meaningful improvements in download speeds across the board.

Etisalat: A Historic Climb to the Top

After ranking second in the overall standings during the previous period, Etisalat achieves a remarkable turnaround in this year's nPerf barometer, rising to first place overall. This progression is backed by a consistent upward trend in its overall score over the past five years – a testament to sustained investment in fixed-line infrastructure. The operator records a striking +40% improvement in Download speed (Mb/s) overall, reaching 144.91 Mb/s compared to 103.57 Mb/s the previous year. On FTTH connections, Etisalat reaches 407.63 Mb/s in Download speed (Mb/s), further reinforcing its high-end offering. Etisalat also claims first place in Latency (ms) overall for the first time, posting 38.03 ms, and consolidates its lead in Web Browsing (%) for a second consecutive year and in Youtube streaming (%) for the fourth year running – demonstrating quality across the full user experience.

du: Speed Leadership Intact, but Under Pressure

du enters the current period as the defending overall champion, having

led the rankings in the previous cycle with a score of 99,420 and top marks in Download speed (Mb/s) at 232.98 Mb/s and Upload speed (Mb/s) at 70.85 Mb/s. While the operator retains its five-consecutive-year leadership in both Download speed (Mb/s) – at 217.23 Mb/s overall – and Upload speed (Mb/s) at 69.26 Mb/s, its overall score has declined to 92,097, narrowing its lead over Etisalat and ultimately ceding the top overall position. On FTTH, du still leads with 509.87 Mb/s in Download speed (Mb/s) and 225.59 Mb/s in Upload speed (Mb/s), confirming the strength of its fiber infrastructure. Both operators are now recognized as co-leaders overall, reflecting a sector where the gap has measurably tightened.

What's at Stake for the Year Ahead

The UAE fixed-line sector is now one of the most competitive in the region, and the trajectory of both operators will be closely watched in the next nPerf barometer cycle. For Etisalat, the priority will be to sustain its momentum in Download speed (Mb/s) – a 40% gain in a single year is exceptional, but consolidating that level while improving Upload speed (Mb/s), where it still trails du, will be critical. Maintaining its advantage in Latency (ms), Web Browsing (%), and Youtube streaming (%) will also be essential to defending the overall top position. For du, the challenge is clear: reversing the downward trend in its overall score while preserving its undisputed speed leadership. Closing the gap in Latency (ms) – where it recorded 56.39 ms overall against Etisalat's 38.03 ms – will be a key lever to reclaim the top spot. With both operators investing heavily in FTTH rollout, the next cycle promises to deliver even higher performance benchmarks for UAE households.

4. Methodology



nPerf provides a free application to assess Internet connection quality via its website and mobile apps (Android, iOS). Daily, thousands of people rely on nPerf for speed tests in their country, contributing to a comprehensive crowdsourced database covering all operators.

The study employs a strong filtering method to reflect real customer experiences on a specific network (mobile or fixed line). Measures are taken to prevent probes and measurement robots from affecting the results.

We assess:

▼ Download bitrate

Indicates the amount of data your connection can receive in one second from the nPerf server. The highest the measured value, the best is the bitrate of your connection.

▲ Upload bitrate

Indicates the amount of data your connection can send in one second to the nPerf server. The highest the measured value, the best is the bitrate of your connection.

◄► Latency (ping)

It indicated the delay a small packet of data requires to make a round-trip from your computer to the nPerf server. The shorter the delay, the most reactive your connection is. The mean is the minimum value.

🌐 Browsing performance

The browsing test assesses the load time of the fully loaded pages, including images, javascript, CSS, and fonts, for the five most popular sites. This indicator reflects the perceived quality by the user.

📺 Streaming performance

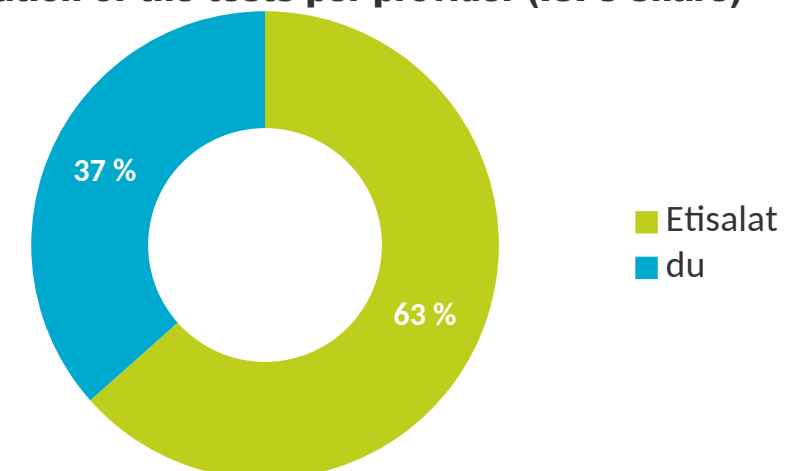
The video streaming test gauges the load time of a fully loaded video in three resolutions on YouTube, considering stalls during playback. This indicator reflects the perceived quality by the user.

Statistical precision is crucial in accurately determining winners. At nPerf, we prioritize test quality, precise reporting, and transparency. Analyzing a large volume of tests in this study, we've achieved 1.5% precision for absolute values and 1% point for percentage-based results, highlighting the reliability and accuracy of our data.

For a more comprehensive understanding of the user experience, our report takes into account test results during both Busy Hours (6 PM to 11 PM) and Idle Hours (the rest of the day). Busy Hours, marked by network strain, can impact user experience through congestion. This approach helps in understanding how network performance fluctuates throughout the day.

We only include national Internet service providers with test share above 5% share. The chart below shows the overall test distribution for each service provider.

Overall distribution of the tests per provider (ISPs Share)



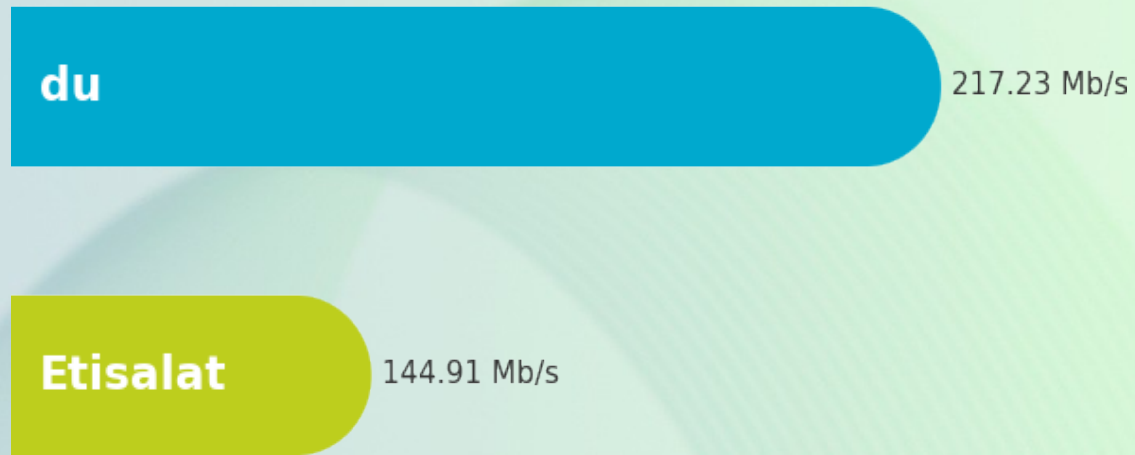
Source : nPerf.com



Download Speed



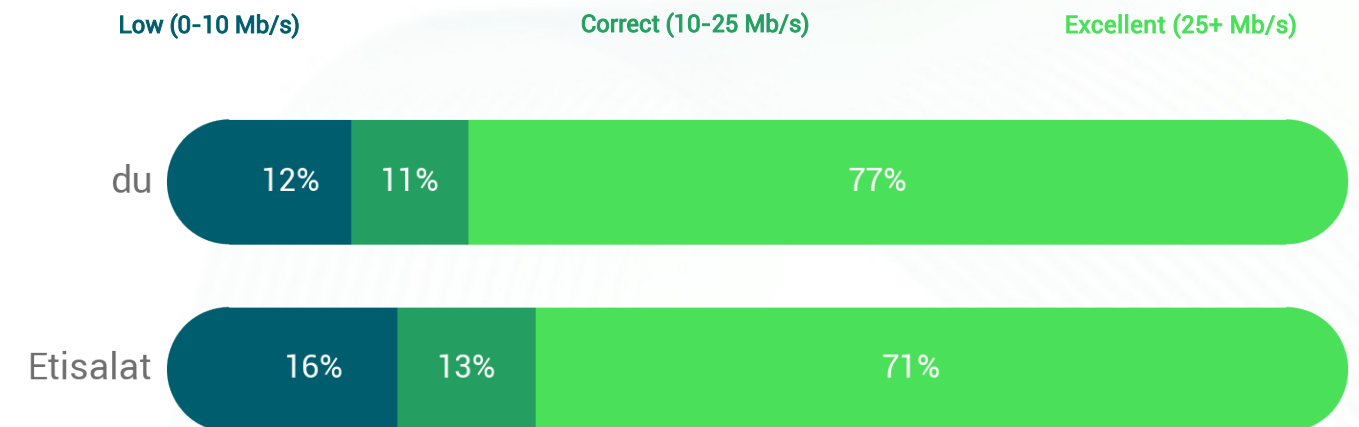
Download Speed (average)



Source : nPerf.com

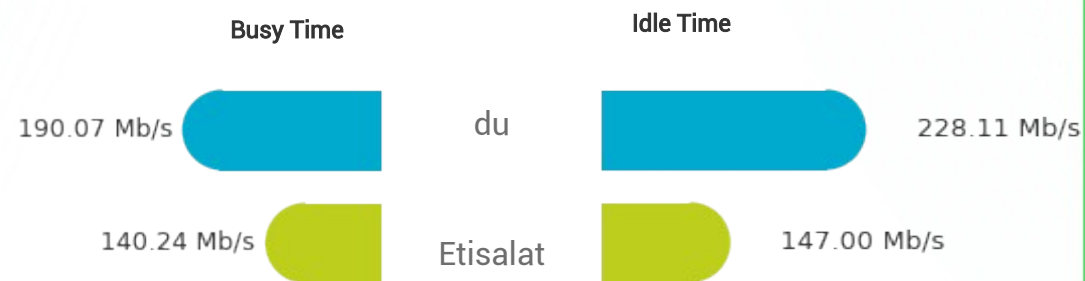
The subscribers of du enjoyed the best Fixed Internet Download Speed in 2026.

Download Speed results distribution (average)



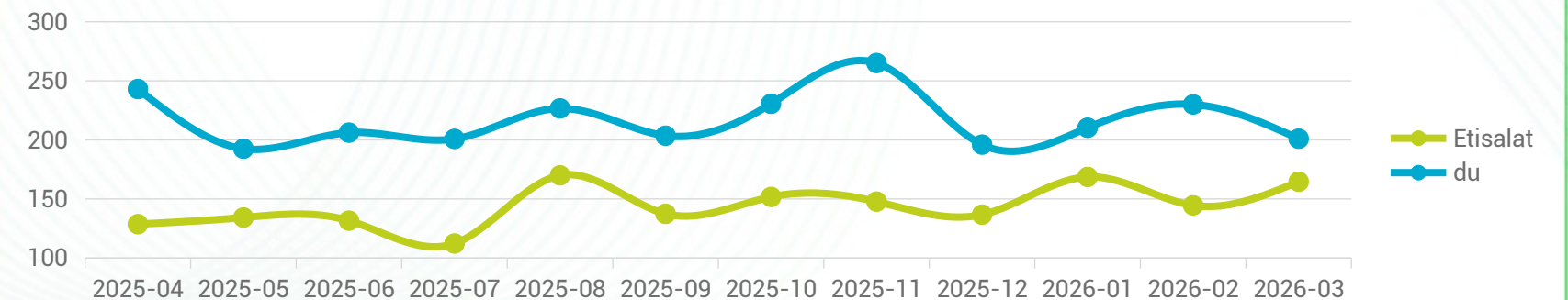
Source : nPerf.com

Download Speed (average)



Source : nPerf.com

Download Speed evolution over the year (average)



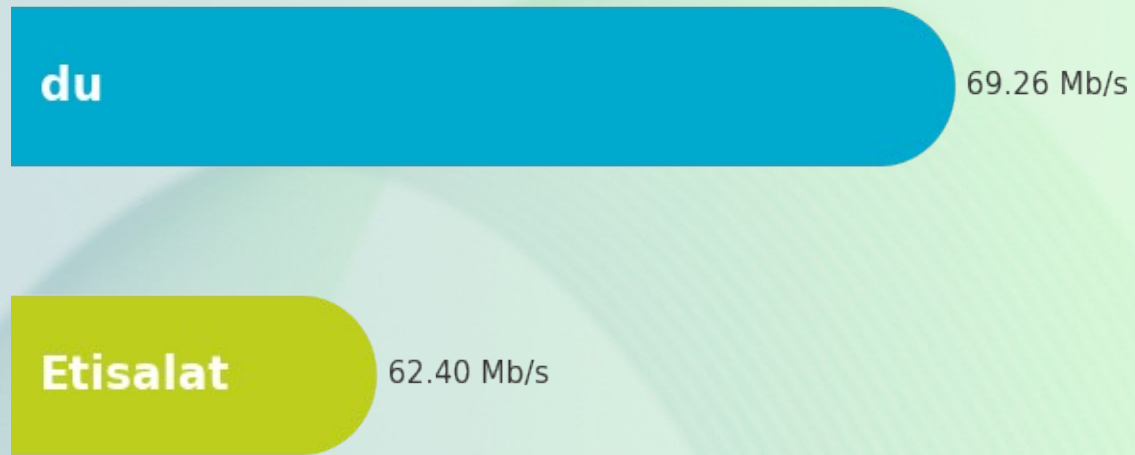
Source : nPerf.com



Upload Speed



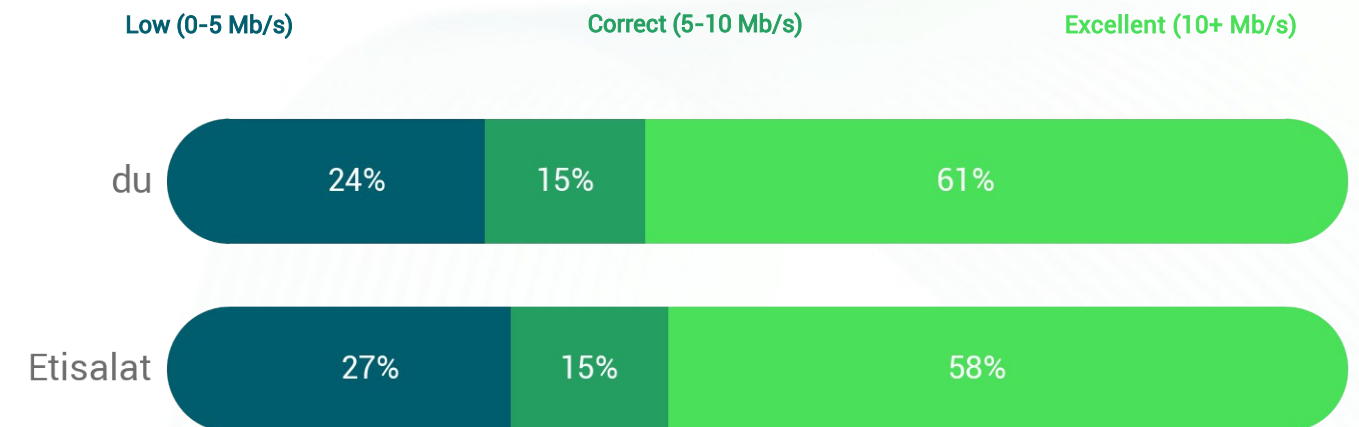
Upload Speed (average)



Source : nPerf.com

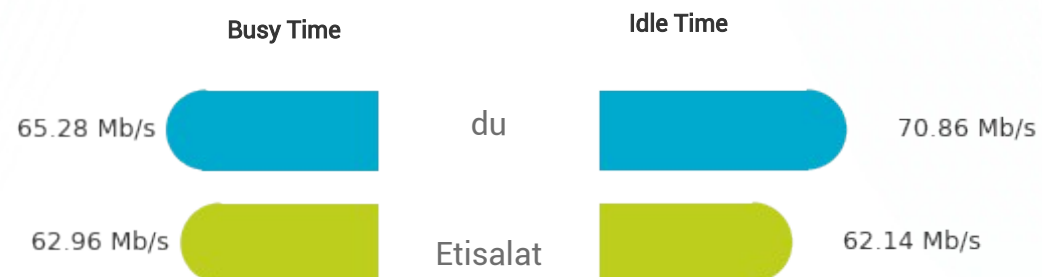
The subscribers of du enjoyed the best Fixed Internet Upload Speed in 2026.

Upload Speed results distribution (average)



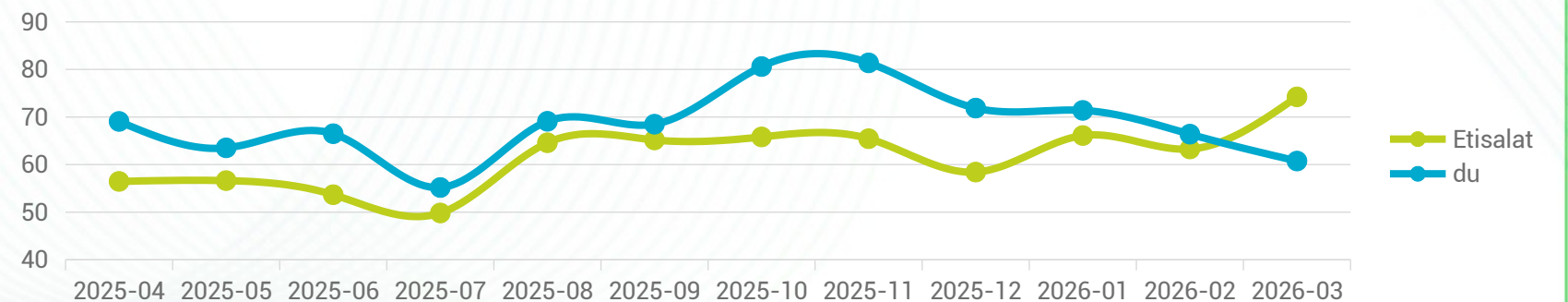
Source : nPerf.com

Upload Speed (average)



Source : nPerf.com

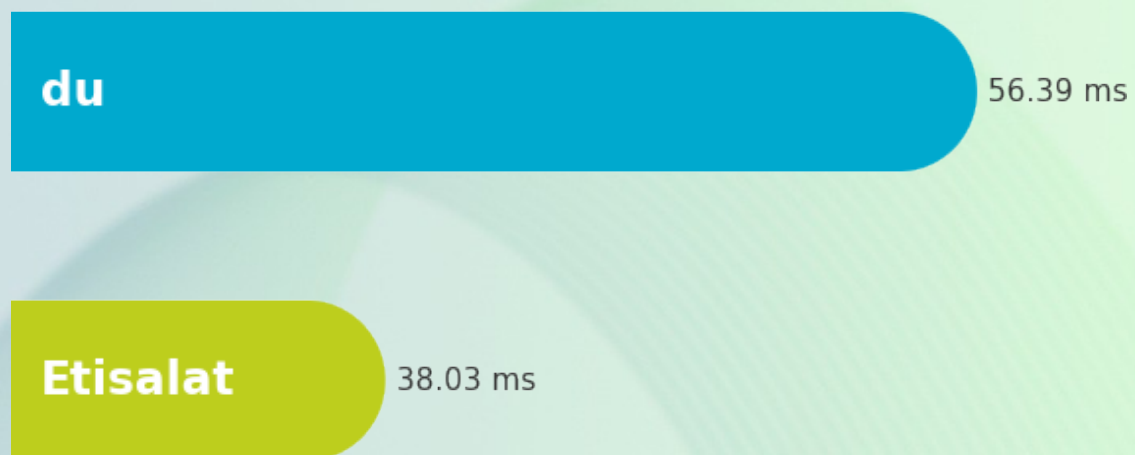
Upload Speed evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com



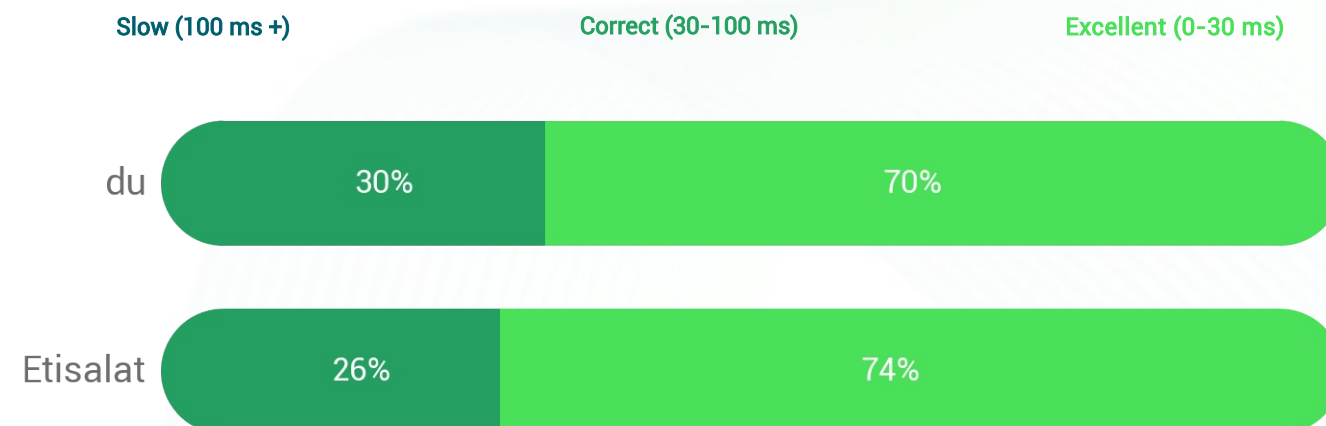
Latency (average)



Source : nPerf.com

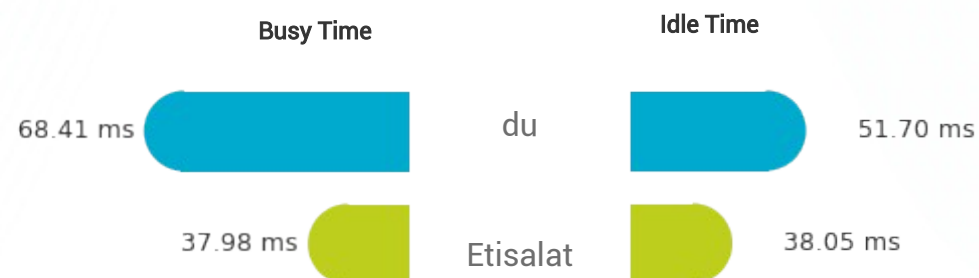
The subscribers of Etisalat enjoyed the best Fixed Internet Latency in 2026.

Latency results distribution (average)



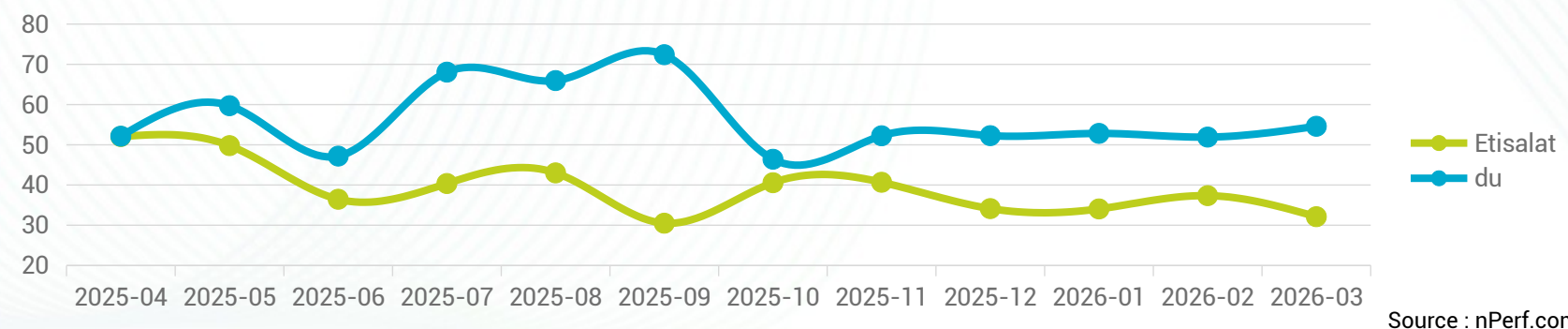
Source : nPerf.com

Latency (average)



Source : nPerf.com

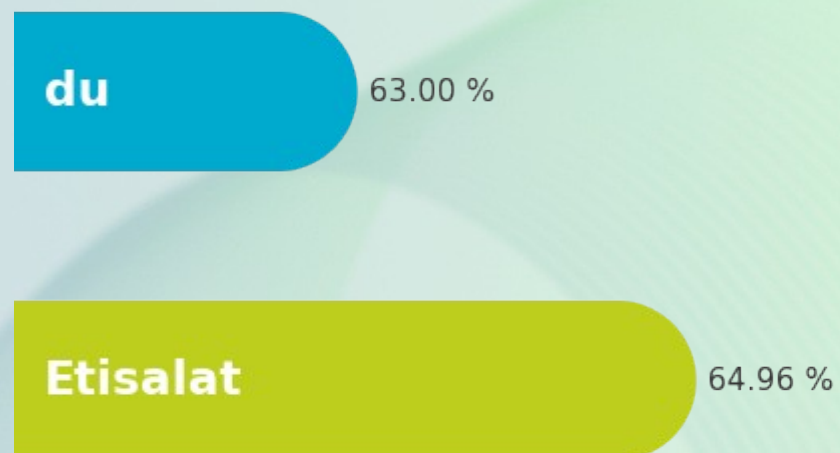
Latency evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com



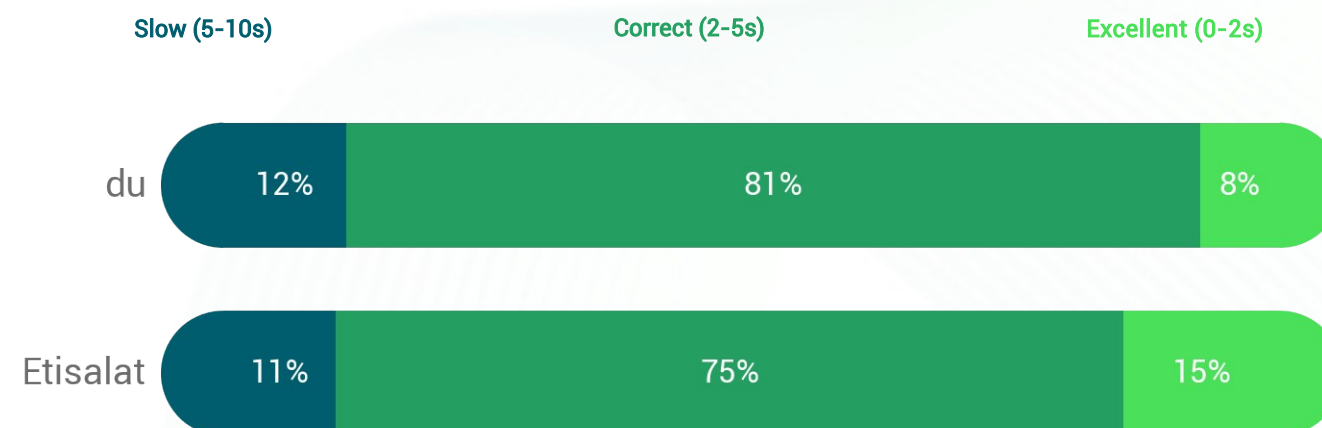
Browsing Performance (average)



Source : nPerf.com

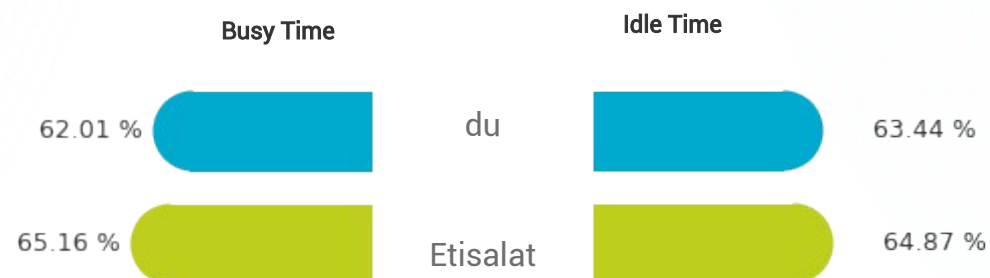
The subscribers of Etisalat enjoyed the best Fixed Internet Browsing Performance in 2026.

Browsing Performance results distribution (average)



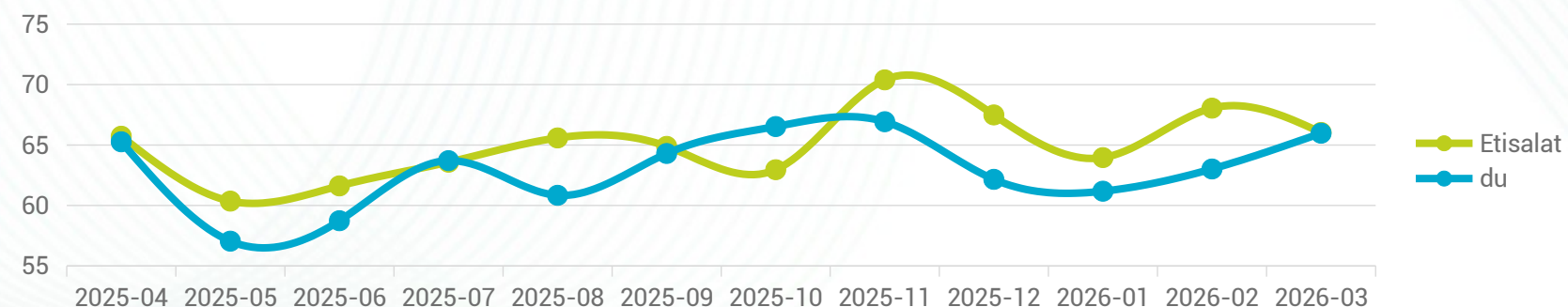
Source : nPerf.com

Browsing Performance (average)



Source : nPerf.com

Browsing Performance evolution over the year (average)



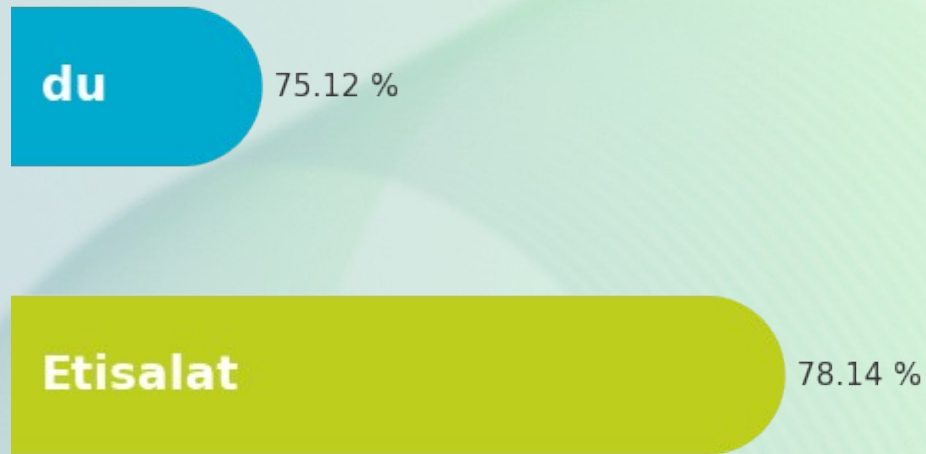
Source : nPerf.com



Streaming Performance



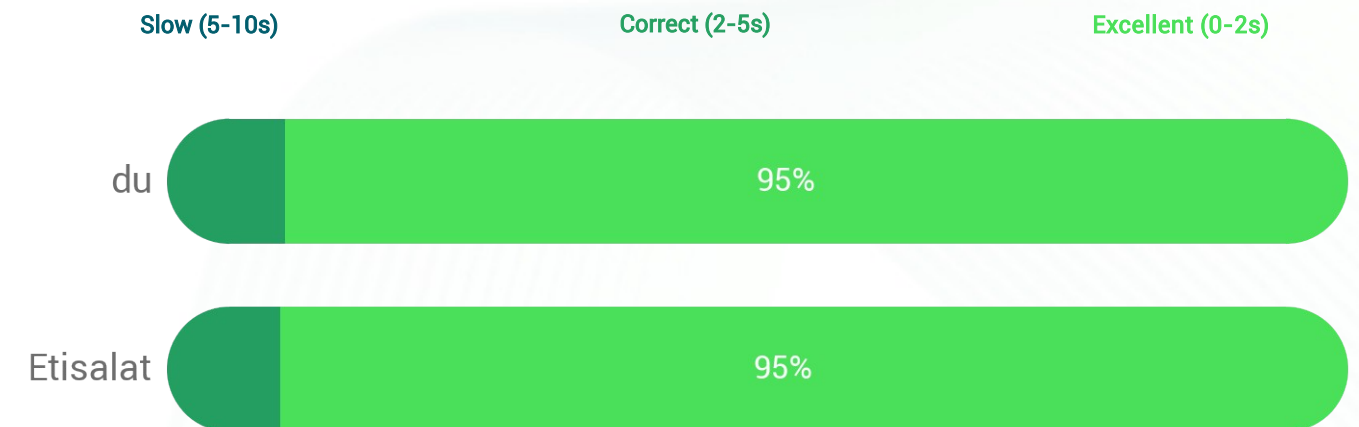
Streaming Performance (average)



Source : nPerf.com

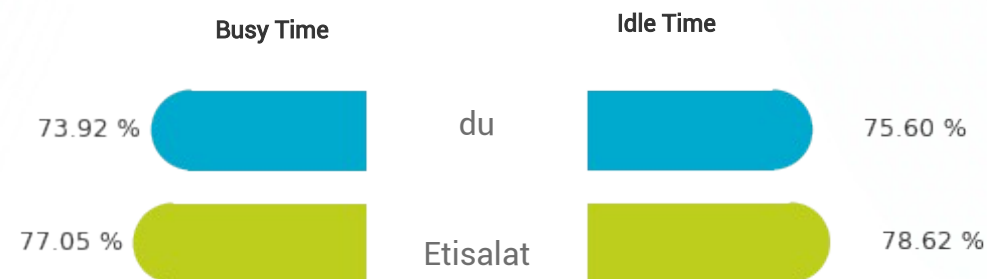
The subscribers of Etisalat enjoyed the best Fixed Internet Streaming Performance in 2026.

Streaming Performance results distribution (average)



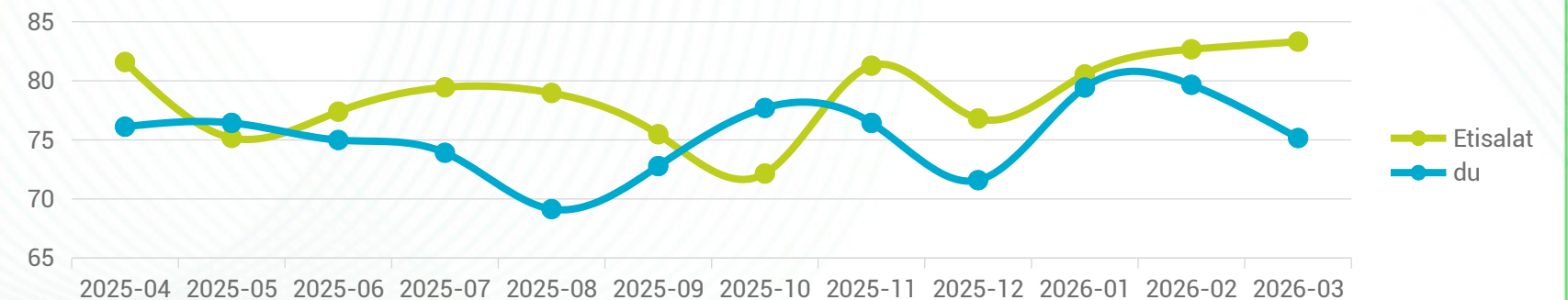
Source : nPerf.com

Streaming Performance (average)



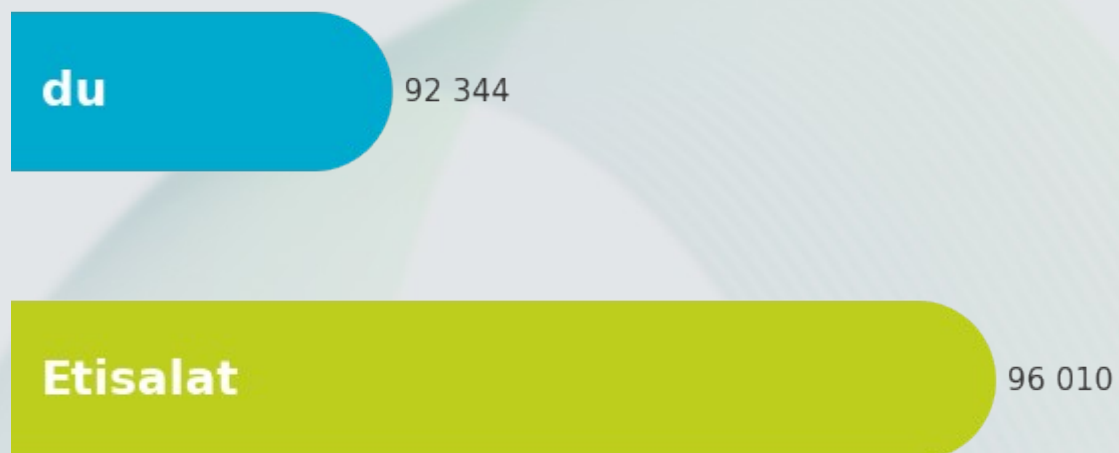
Source : nPerf.com

Streaming Performance evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Score (nPoints)



Source : nPerf.com

The subscribers of Etisalat enjoyed the best WIFI Internet in 2026.

Best performances WIFI: Etisalat

Fastest performances (Download Speed) WIFI: du

Fastest performances (Upload Speed) WIFI: Etisalat and du

WIFI connections with the lowest latency: Etisalat

Best web browsing performances WIFI: Etisalat and du

Best streaming performances WIFI: Etisalat and du

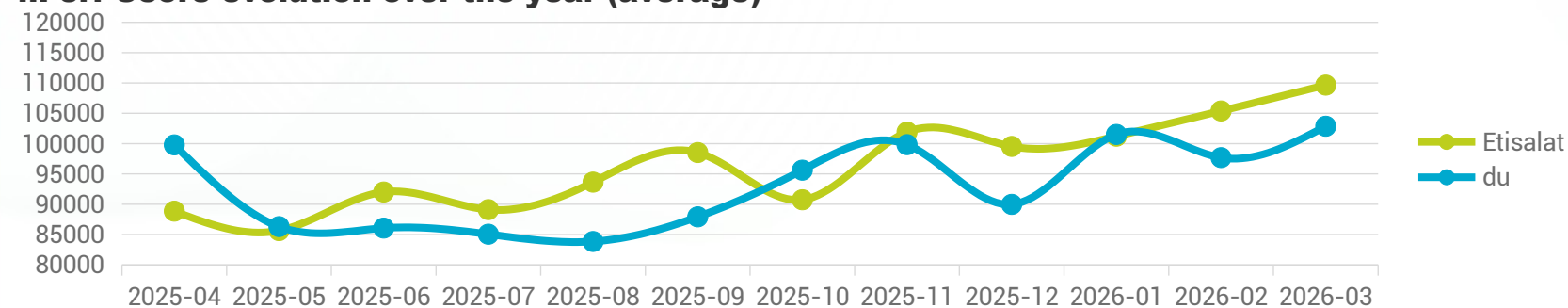
Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Podium



Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Score evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Score (nPoints)



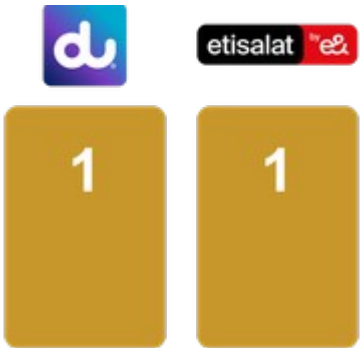
Source : nPerf.com

The subscribers of Etisalat and du enjoyed the best FTTH Internet in 2026.

- Best performances FTTH: Etisalat and du
- Fastest performances (Download Speed) FTTH: du
- Fastest performances (Upload Speed) FTTH: du
- FTTH connections with the lowest latency: Etisalat
- Best web browsing performances FTTH: Etisalat and du
- Best streaming performances FTTH: Etisalat

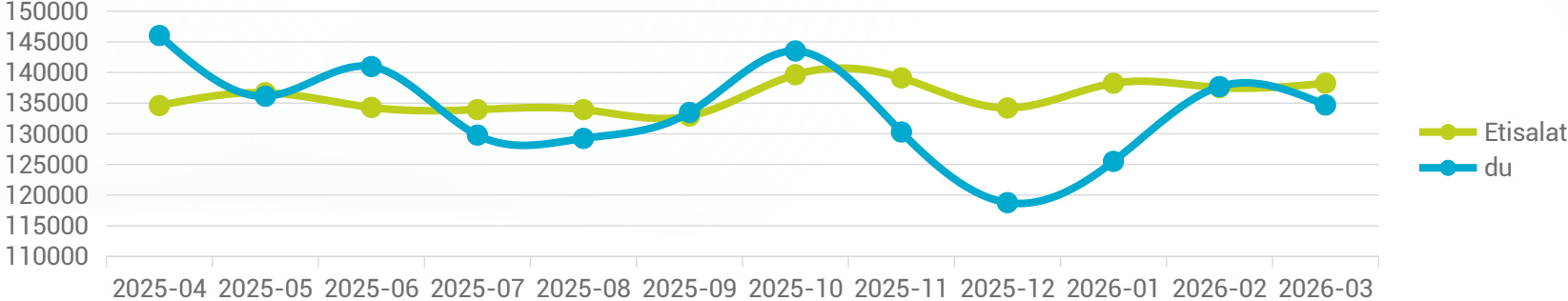
Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Podium



Source : nPerf.com

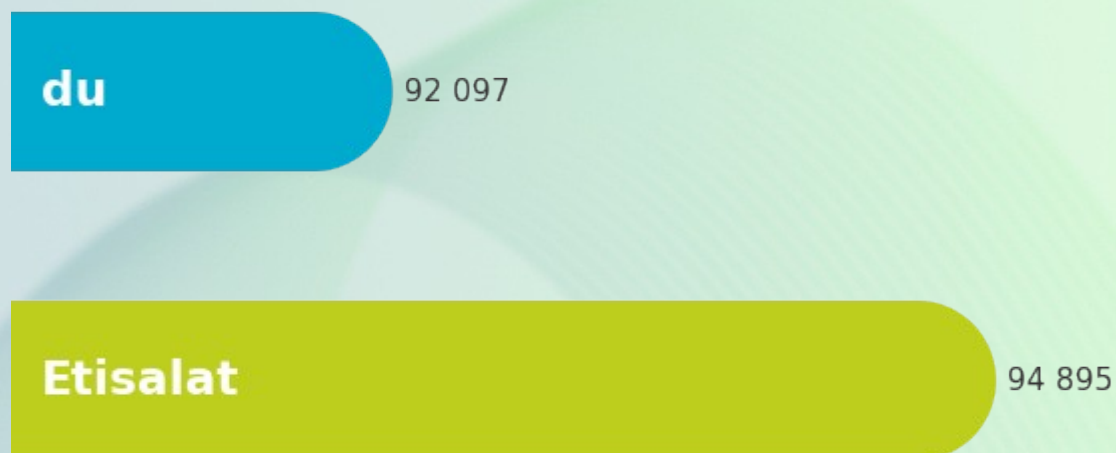
nPerf Score evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com



nPerf Score (nPoints)



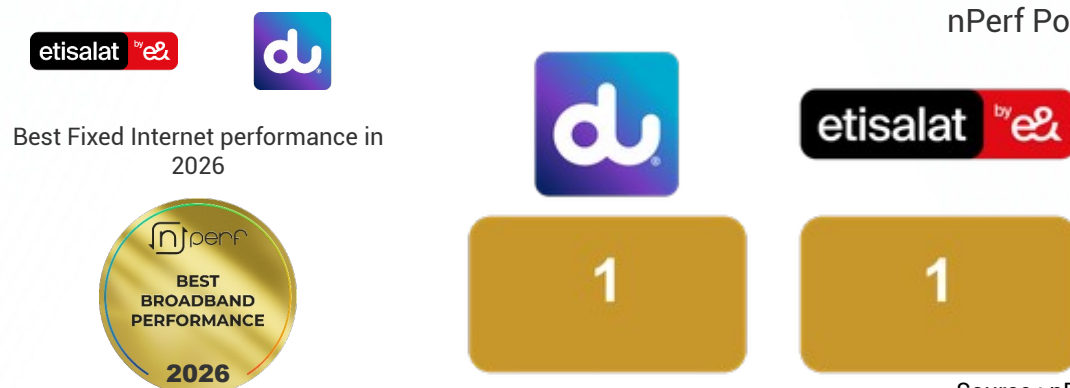
Source : nPerf.com

The subscribers of Etisalat and du enjoyed the best Fixed Internet performances in 2026.

The nPerf score takes into account the measured bitrates, the latency and the QoE tests. The value of the points for the rates and the latency is calculated on a logarithmic scale, to better represent the perception of the user. Thus, this score reflects the overall quality of the connection experienced by the user.

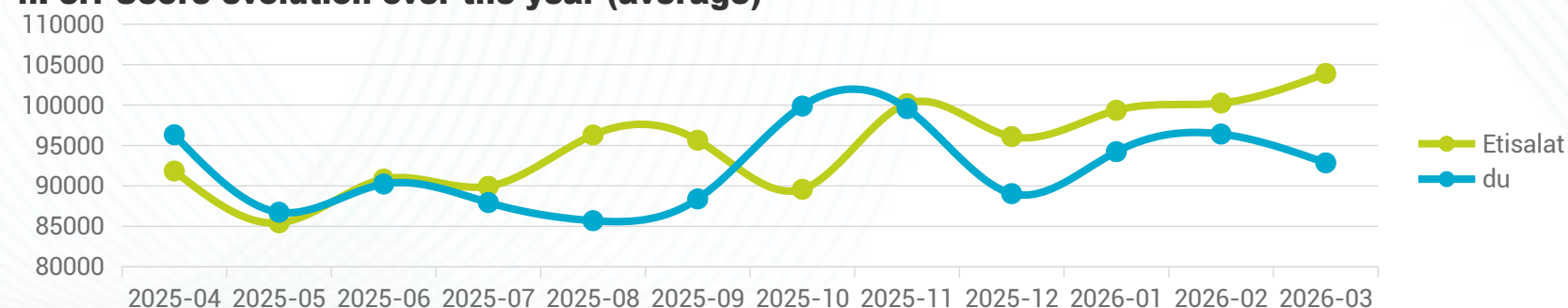
Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Podium



Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Score evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com

