

April 2026



Barometer of mobile Internet connections in Lao

04/01/2025 - 03/31/2026



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**nPerf Network
assessment**

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.

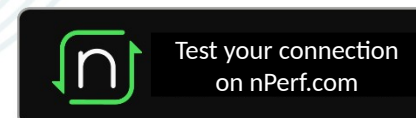
 **26Md+** coverage scans in total.

 **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 Lao Telecom and Unitel enjoyed the best Mobile Internet performances in 2026 in Lao.

Mobile Internet performance in Lao

	Lao Telecom	Unitel
▼ Download bitrates (Mb/s)	29.69	34.79
▲ Upload bitrates (Mb/s)	13.23	13.83
◀▶ Latency (ms)	46.83	55.61
🌐 Web browsing (%)	58.04	57.40
📺 Youtube streaming (%)	67.39	65.39
📶 nPerf Score (nPoints)	57 635	56 536

Source : nPerf.com



Best Mobile Internet
performance in 2026



Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Podium



Source : nPerf.com

The subscribers of Lao Telecom enjoyed the best 4G Internet in 2026 in Lao.

Mobile Internet performance in Lao

	Lao Telecom	Unitel
 Download bitrates (Mb/s)	29.46	25.43
 Upload bitrates (Mb/s)	12.93	12.80
 Latency (ms)	48.23	56.31
 Web browsing (%)	58.01	56.99
 Youtube streaming (%)	68.20	66.29
 nPerf Score (nPoints)	57 503	53 236

Source : nPerf.com

The best mobile Internet performance in Lao PDR for the period April 2025 – March 2026 reveals a fiercely competitive landscape, with Lao Telecom and Unitel both pushing their networks to new heights. nPerf's latest barometer highlights meaningful progress across the board, as both operators demonstrate sustained improvements in speed and overall quality – making this one of the most closely contested mobile markets we have measured in the country to date.

Lao Telecom: A consistent leader building on solid foundations

Lao Telecom enters this edition as co-leader in the overall rankings, sharing the top position with Unitel – a result that reflects the operator's relentless investment in network quality. This performance is no coincidence: nPerf data shows that Lao Telecom has maintained a steady upward progression in its overall score across five consecutive years, a rare achievement that speaks to the operator's long-term commitment to its subscribers. On 4G specifically, Lao Telecom retains its leadership title for the fifth year running, excelling in both Download speed (29.46 Mb/s) and Upload speed (12.93 Mb/s) – a double dominance that no rival has yet managed to match on this technology. Most striking is the operator's Download speed performance overall, which surged by 38% compared to the previous year (from 21.47 to 29.69 Mb/s), signalling a significant leap in network capacity. Web Browsing and Youtube streaming scores, at 58.04% and 67.39% respectively, further confirm a well-rounded network experience for users across the country.

Unitel: A remarkable climb to the top

Unitel's trajectory this year is arguably the most impressive story of this edition. After ranking third in the overall score during the previous period,

the operator has surged to first place – a gain of two positions that reflects a fundamental transformation of its network performance. This co-leadership is reinforced by best-in-class results overall in both Download speed (34.79 Mb/s) and Upload speed (13.83 Mb/s), both achieved for the second consecutive year, confirming that Unitel's speed advantage is not a one-off but a structural trend. Perhaps the most remarkable improvement is on Latency: the operator reduced its overall response time by 33% year-on-year, dropping from 83.20 ms to 55.61 ms – a transformation that dramatically enhances real-time applications and browsing fluidity for its users. Like its rival, Unitel also demonstrates five consecutive years of overall score progression, underlining a sector where both leaders are genuinely raising the bar simultaneously.

What's next: A sector with no margin for complacency

As the gap between Lao Telecom and Unitel continues to narrow – a trend nPerf has been tracking over recent periods – both operators face a demanding agenda heading into the next measurement cycle. For Lao Telecom, maintaining its hard-won 4G leadership and the momentum of its Download speed growth will be critical; the operator should also focus on closing the gap in overall Download speed, where Unitel currently holds a slight edge (34.79 vs 29.69 Mb/s). Improving Youtube streaming scores, which declined slightly year-on-year (from 71.33% to 67.39%), will also be a priority to protect the user experience. For Unitel, the challenge is now to consolidate its new leadership position: sustaining the impressive latency gains already achieved while strengthening 4G-specific metrics – particularly Web Browsing and Youtube streaming, where Lao Telecom remains ahead – will be key to converting overall leadership into a decisive, multi-dimensional advantage. The Lao mobile sector has rarely looked this competitive, and nPerf will be watching closely.

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

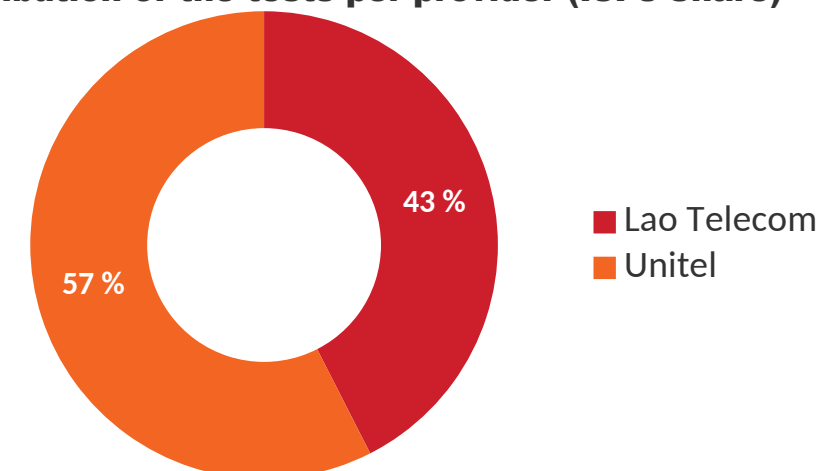
The video streaming test gauges the load time of a fully loaded video in three resolutions on YouTube, considering stalls during playback. This indicator reflects the perceived quality by the user.

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)

Lao Telecom

29.69 Mb/s

Unitel

34.79 Mb/s

Source : nPerf.com

The subscribers of Unitel enjoyed the best Mobile Internet Download Speed in 2026.

Download Speed results distribution (average)

Low (0-10 Mb/s)

Correct (10-25 Mb/s)

Excellent (25+ Mb/s)

Lao Telecom

24%

19%

57%

Unitel

35%

23%

42%

Source : nPerf.com

Download Speed (average)

Busy Time

Idle Time

26.38 Mb/s

Lao Telecom

30.57 Mb/s

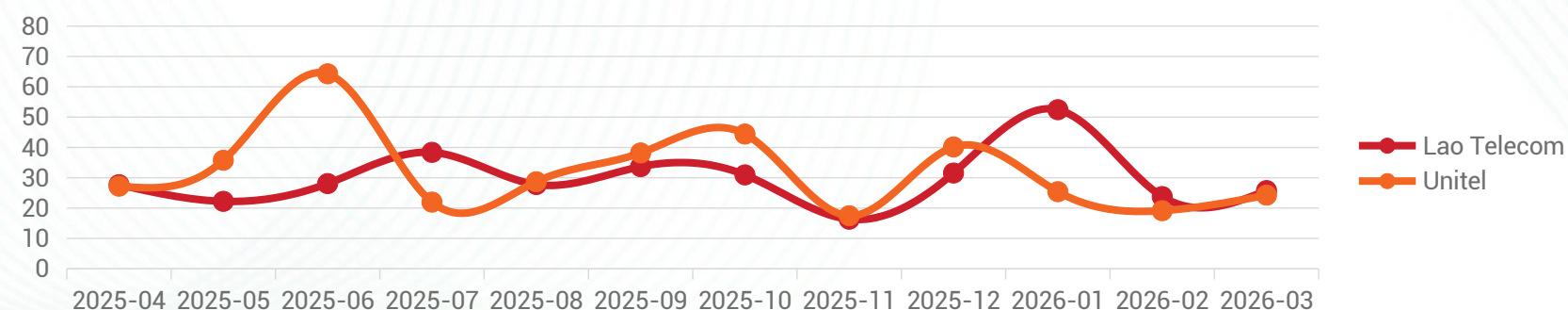
36.23 Mb/s

Unitel

34.30 Mb/s

Source : nPerf.com

Download Speed evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com



Upload Speed



Upload Speed (average)

Lao Telecom

13.23 Mb/s

Unitel

13.83 Mb/s

Source : nPerf.com

The subscribers of Unitel enjoyed the best Mobile Internet Upload Speed in 2026.

Upload Speed results distribution (average)

Low (0-5 Mb/s)

Correct (5-10 Mb/s)

Excellent (10+ Mb/s)

Lao Telecom

37%

28%

35%

Unitel

46%

23%

30%

Source : nPerf.com

Upload Speed (average)

Busy Time

Idle Time

13.47 Mb/s

Lao Telecom

13.17 Mb/s

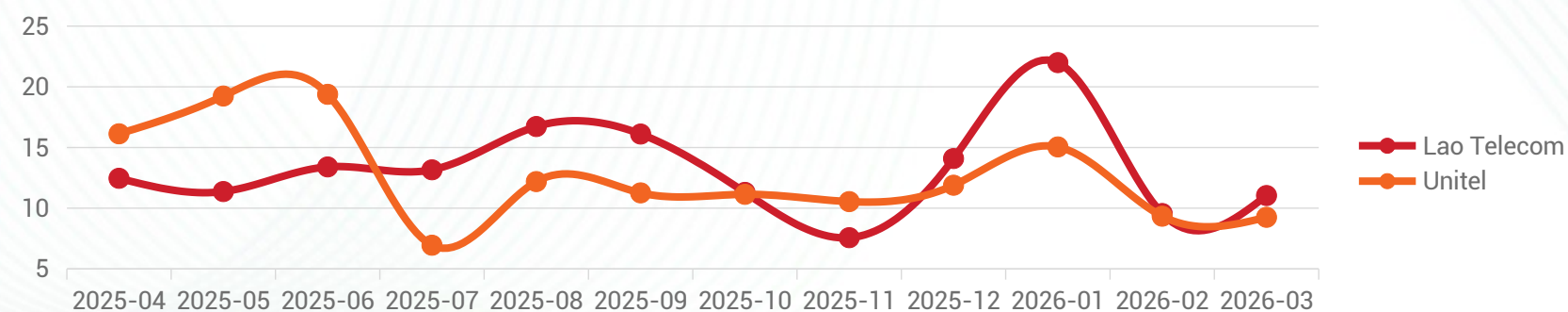
12.52 Mb/s

Unitel

14.28 Mb/s

Source : nPerf.com

Upload Speed evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com



Latency (average)

Lao Telecom

46.83 ms

Unitel

55.61 ms

Source : nPerf.com

The subscribers of Lao Telecom enjoyed the best Mobile Internet Latency in 2026.

Latency results distribution (average)

Slow (100 ms +)

Correct (30-100 ms)

Excellent (0-30 ms)

Lao Telecom

48%

52%

Unitel

73%

27%

Source : nPerf.com

Latency (average)

Busy Time

Idle Time

69.40 ms

Lao Telecom

40.43 ms

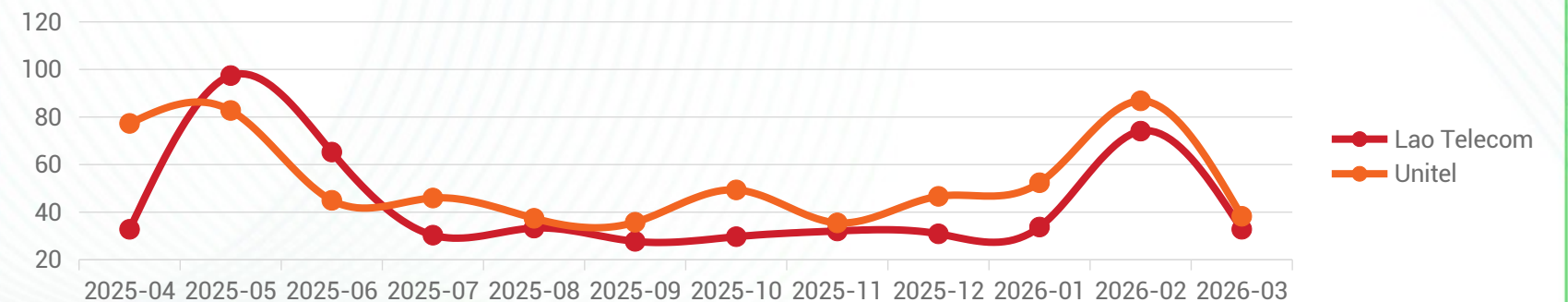
67.68 ms

Unitel

51.58 ms

Source : nPerf.com

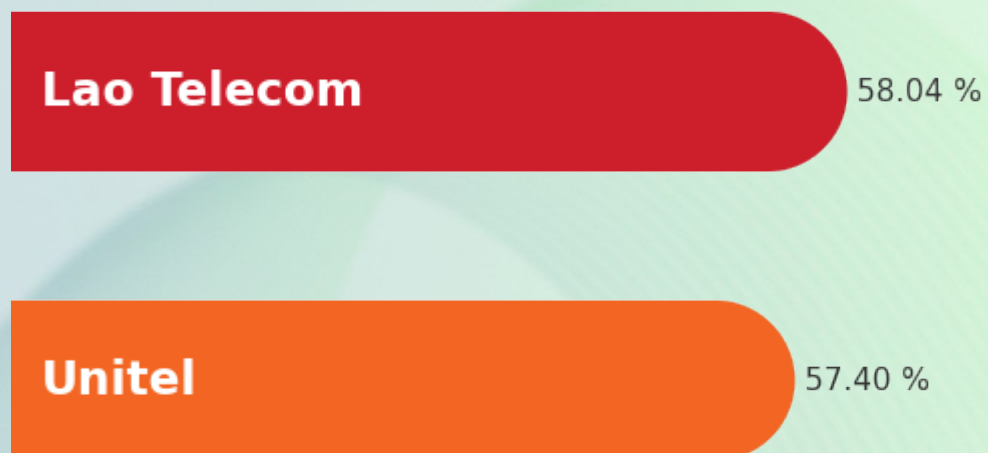
Latency evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com



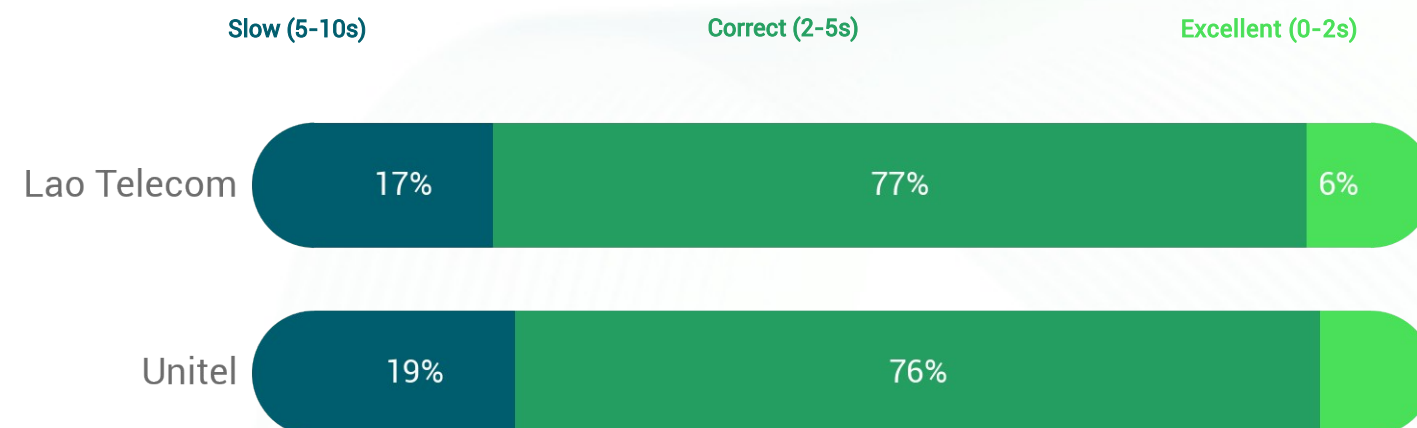
Browsing Performance (average)



Source : nPerf.com

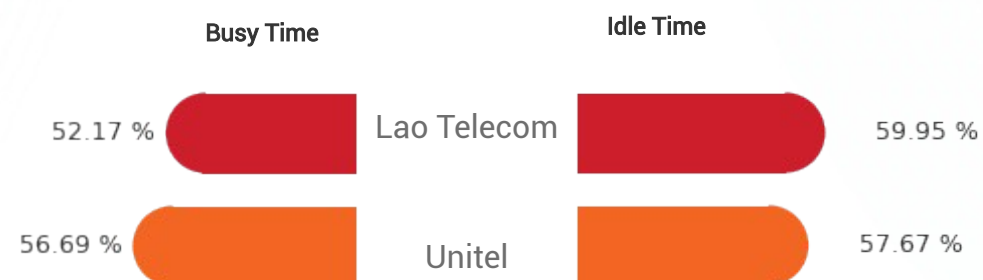
The subscribers of Lao Telecom and Unitel enjoyed the best Mobile Internet Browsing Performance in 2026.

Browsing Performance results distribution (average)



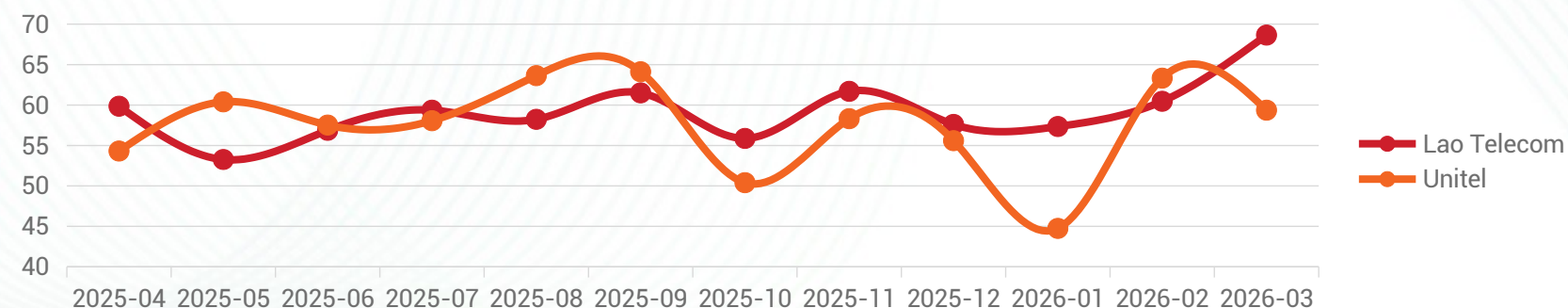
Source : nPerf.com

Browsing Performance (average)



Source : nPerf.com

Browsing Performance evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com



Streaming Performance



Streaming Performance (average)

Lao Telecom

67.39 %

Unitel

65.39 %

Source : nPerf.com

The subscribers of Lao Telecom enjoyed the best Mobile Internet Streaming Performance in 2026.

Streaming Performance results distribution (average)

Slow (5-10s)

Correct (2-5s)

Excellent (0-2s)

Lao Telecom

7%

92%

Unitel

10%

89%

Source : nPerf.com

Streaming Performance (average)

Busy Time

Idle Time

62.60 %

Lao Telecom

68.67 %

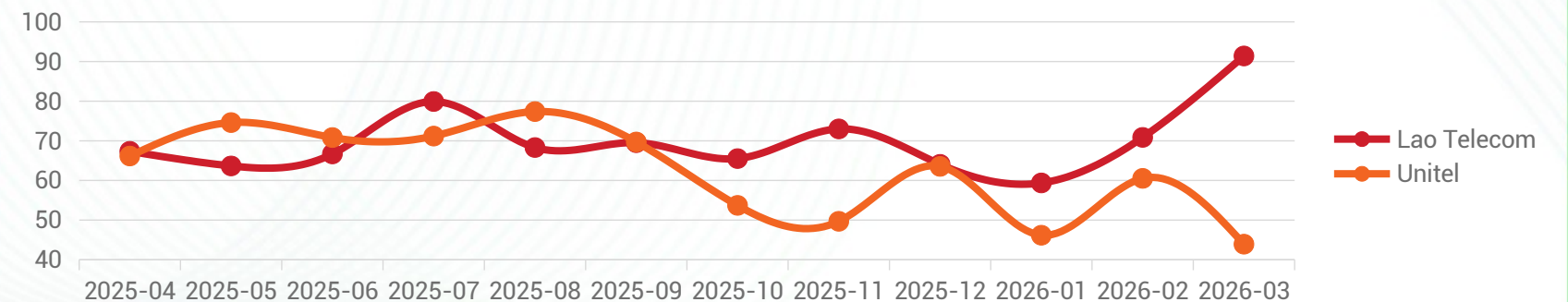
67.57 %

Unitel

64.65 %

Source : nPerf.com

Streaming Performance evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Score (nPoints)

Lao Telecom

57 503

Unitel

53 236

Source : nPerf.com

The subscribers of Lao Telecom enjoyed the best 4G Internet in 2026.

Best performances 4G: Lao Telecom

Fastest performances (Download Speed) 4G: Lao Telecom

Fastest performances (Upload Speed) 4G: Lao Telecom and Unitel

4G connections with the lowest latency: Lao Telecom

Best web browsing performances 4G: Lao Telecom and Unitel

Best streaming performances 4G: Lao Telecom and Unitel

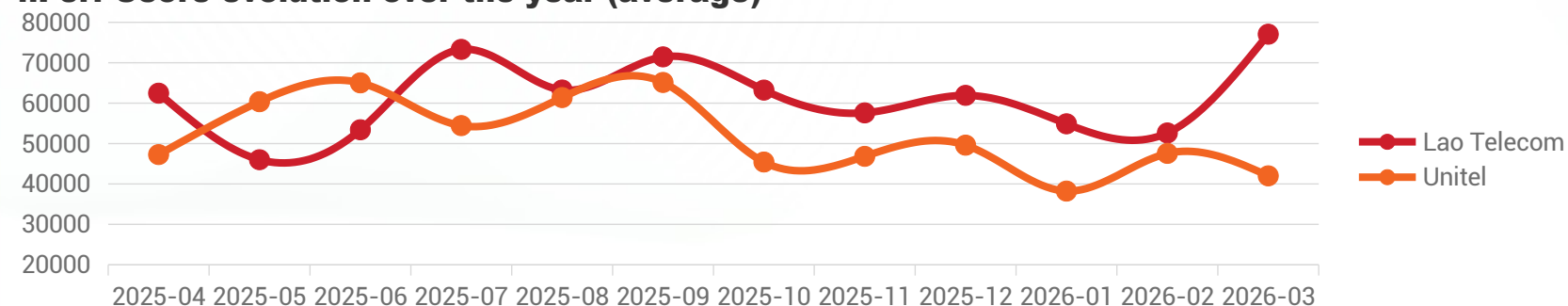
Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Podium



Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Score evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com



nPerf Score (nPoints)

Lao Telecom

57 635

Unitel

56 536

Source : nPerf.com

The subscribers of Lao Telecom and Unitel enjoyed the best Mobile 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



UNITEL

Best Mobile Internet performance
in 2026



UNITEL

1

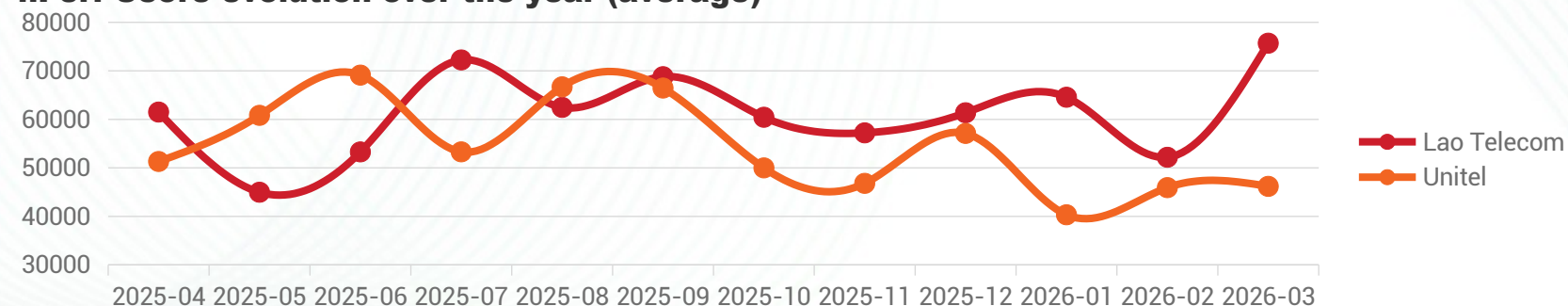


nPerf Podium

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Source : nPerf.com

nPerf Score evolution over the year (average)



Source : nPerf.com

