

June 17, 2024



Barometer of mobile Internet connections in Saudi Arabia

04/01/2023 - 03/31/2024



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**nPerf Network
assessment**



Expert in the telecom network optimization

nPerf is an independent French company based in Lyon (France). For over a decade, nPerf has been a trusted partner for both fixed and mobile operators, providing comprehensive network testing solutions and analysis. Our mission is to accurately measure, evaluate, and enhance the understanding of Internet connectivity around the world.



300k+ tests daily worldwide.



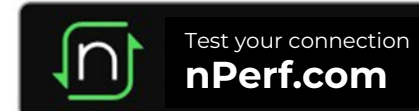
26Md+ coverage scans in total.



3k+ servers all around the world.

Test your Internet connection with nPerf!

nPerf allows you to test the quality of your fixed, mobile, or Wi-Fi Internet connections up to 10 Gb/s! Download our app or visit our website!



2. Executive Summary



The subscribers of **Mobily** and **STC** enjoyed the best mobile Internet performances in Saudi Arabia during 2024.

Mobile Internet connections in Saudi Arabia

	Mobily	STC	Zain
Download speeds (Mb/s)	45.17	55.53	33.72
Upload speeds (Mb/s)	9.48	12.07	6.62
Latency (ms)	64.90	63.39	131.86
Web browsing (%)	47.54	46.15	41.03
Youtube streaming (%)	77.02	72.42	67.99
nPerf Score (nPoints)	56 744	57 240	41 921

Source : nperf.com



Best mobile Internet performance in 2024



Source : nperf.com





Source : nperf.com

2. Executive Summary



The subscribers of **Mobily** enjoyed the best mobile Internet user experience in Saudi Arabia in 2024.

Mobile Internet connections in Saudi Arabia

	Mobily	STC	Zain
 Web browsing (%)	47.54	46.15	41.03
 Youtube streaming (%)	77.02	72.42	67.99

Source : nperf.com



Best mobile Internet user experience in 2024



Source : nperf.com



Source : nperf.com

2. Executive Summary



The subscribers of **STC** enjoyed the fastest mobile Internet performances in Saudi Arabia in 2024.

Mobile Internet connections in Saudi Arabia

	Mobily	STC	Zain
▼ Download speeds (Mb/s)	45.17	55.53	33.72
▲ Upload speeds (Mb/s)	9.48	12.07	6.62
◀▶ Latency (ms)	64.90	63.39	131.86

Source : nperf.com



Fastest mobile Internet performance in 2024



Source : nperf.com



Source : nperf.com

The cellular market in Saudi Arabia has witnessed significant competition among leading ISPs, with STC and Mobily emerging as co-winners in our latest assessments. STC leads the market in speed performance, while Mobily excels in Quality of Experience (QoE). Here is a detailed analysis of their performance based on key performance indicators (KPIs) and nPerf scores.

STC: Dominating Speed Metrics

STC has outperformed its competitors in terms of download and upload speeds, establishing itself as the leader in speed performance. The average download speed for STC is 55.5 Mb/s, and the average upload speed is 12.1 Mb/s. The average latency for STC stands at 63.4 ms. STC consistently achieved superior results, reflecting its robust network infrastructure.

Mobily: Leading in User Experience

Mobily excels in overall user experience, particularly in browsing and streaming scores. The average download speed for Mobily is 45.2 Mb/s, and the average upload speed is 9.5 Mb/s, with an average latency of 64.9 ms. Mobily's browsing score is 47.5, and its streaming score is 77.0. These scores demonstrate Mobily's balanced performance, emphasizing a high-quality browsing and streaming experience. The high streaming score, significantly surpassing the competition, underlines Mobily's ability to deliver consistent and high-quality video streaming, a crucial factor for user satisfaction.

Zain: Lagging Behind

Zain, while a significant player, trails behind STC and Mobily in several key metrics. The average download speed for Zain is 33.7 Mb/s, and the average upload speed is 6.6 Mb/s, with an average latency of 131.9 ms. Zain's latency and lower speed metrics suggest areas for infrastructure improvements. The company's browsing and streaming scores, while respectable, highlight the gap between Zain and the market leaders.

Conclusion: Based on the nPerf scores and KPIs, the ranking of ISPs in Saudi Arabia is clear. STC leads in speed and overall performance, followed by Mobily, which excels in user experience with strong browsing and streaming scores. Zain has notable areas for improvement in speed and latency.

4. Methodology



nPerf provides a **free tool 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.

For mobile connections, we assess:

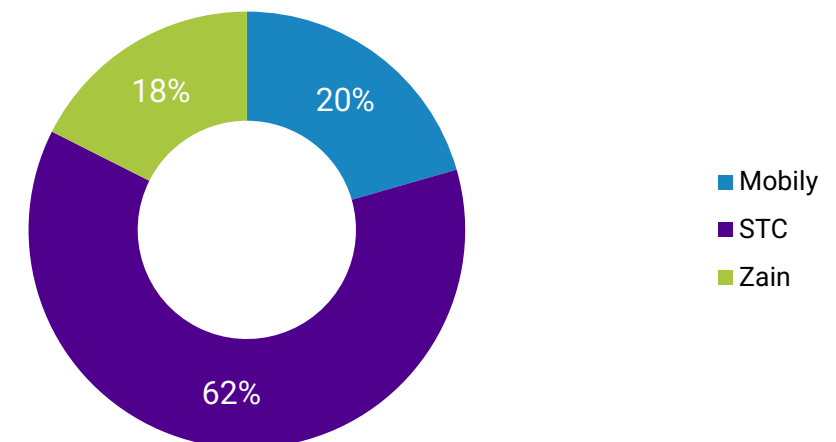
- ▼ **Download bitrate:**
Indicates the amount of data your connection can receive in one second from the nPerf server. The highest the measured value, the best is the bitrate of your connection.
- ▲ **Upload bitrate:**
Indicates the amount of data your connection can send in one second from the nPerf 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 main 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 user's perceived quality of the Internet network.
- 📺 **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 user's perceived quality of the Internet network.

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 5.5% precision for absolute values, highlighting the reliability and accuracy of our data.

For a more comprehensive understanding of the user experience, our report features 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.

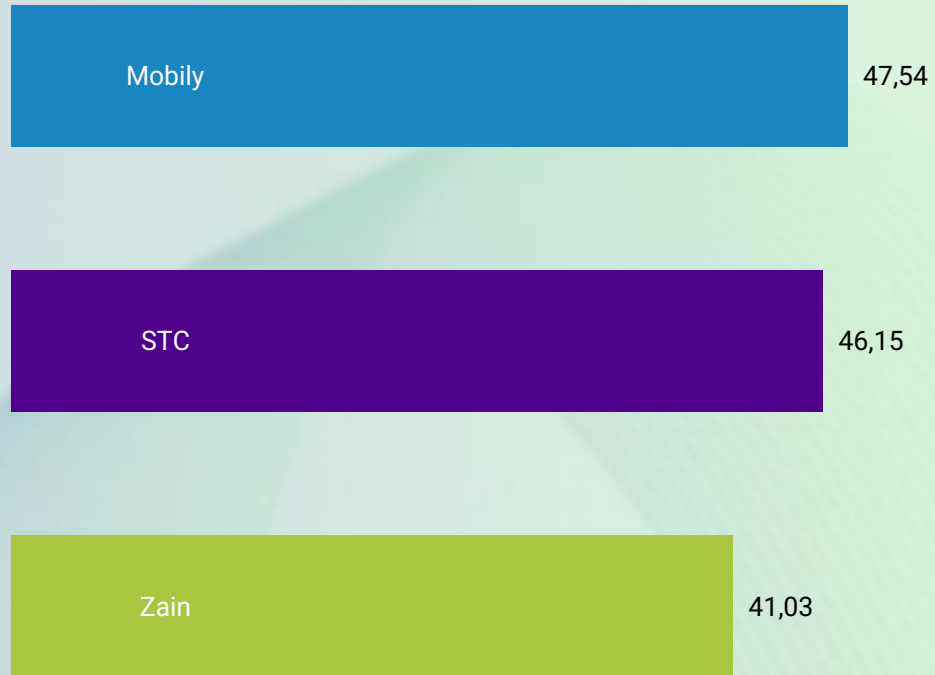
Overall distribution of the tests per provider (ISPs Share)



Source : nperf.com



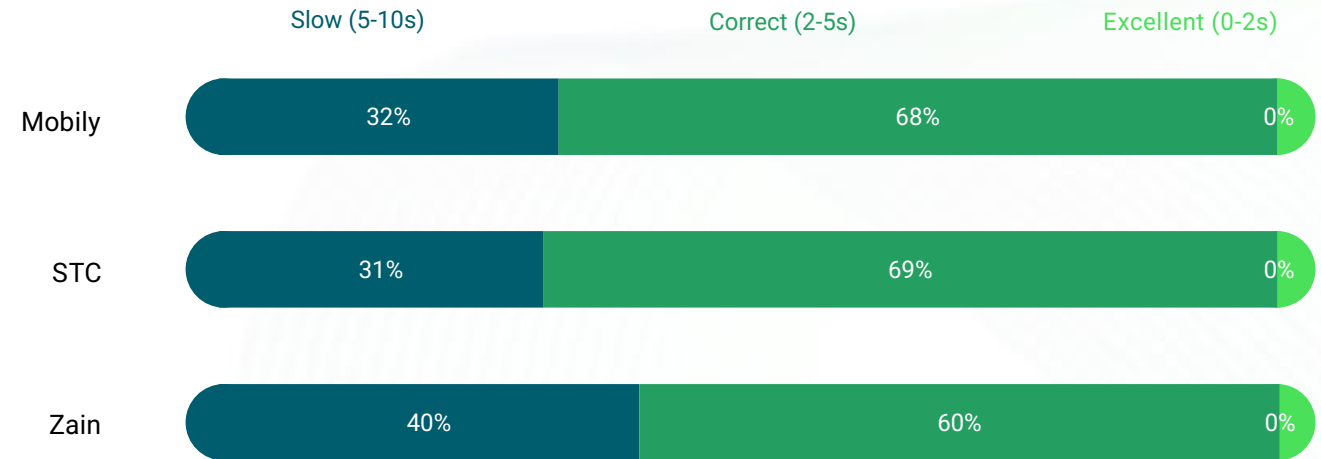
Browsing Performance rate (average) %



Source : nperf.com

The subscribers of **Mobily** enjoyed the best mobile Internet browsing performance in 2024.

Browsing Performance results ventilation (average)



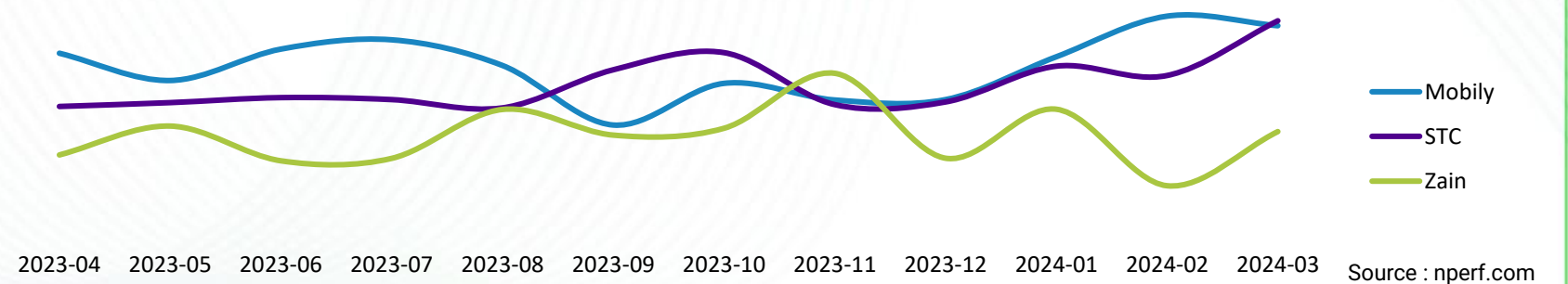
Source : nperf.com

Browsing Performance rate (average) %



Source : nperf.com

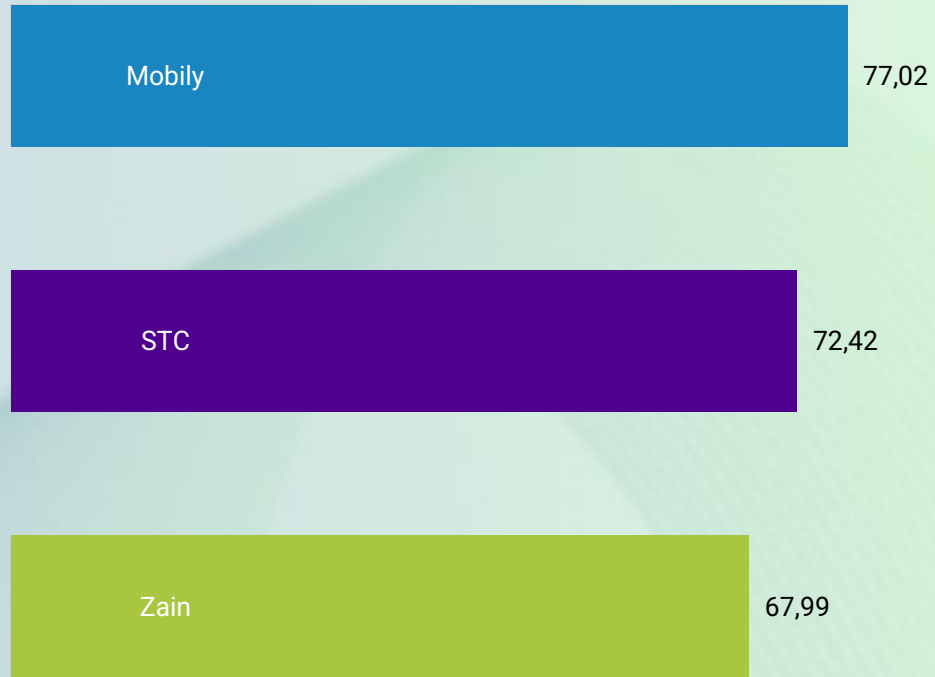
Browsing performance rate (average) evolution over the year



Source : nperf.com



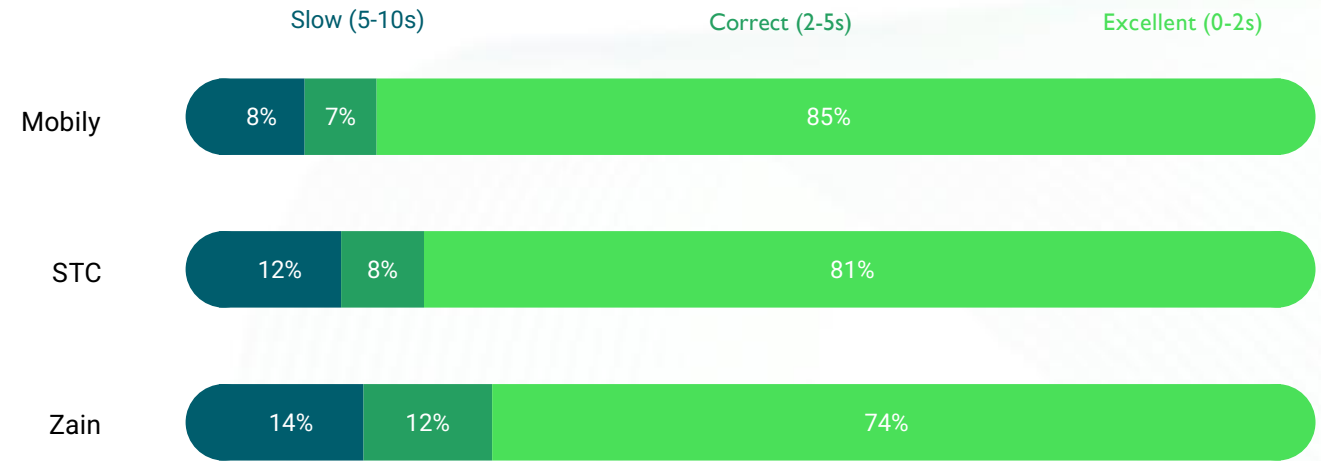
Streaming Performance rate (average) %



Source : nperf.com

The subscribers of **Mobily** enjoyed the best mobile Internet streaming performance in 2024.

Streaming Performance results ventilation (average)



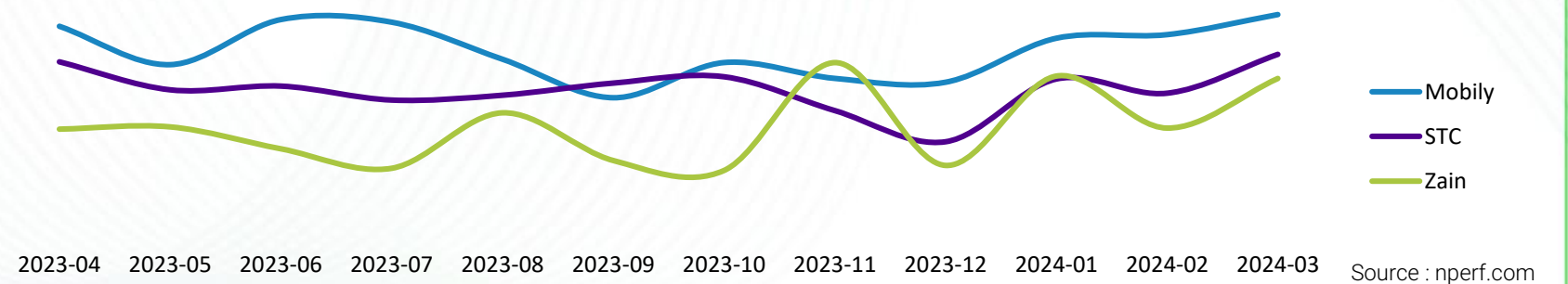
Source : nperf.com

Streaming Performance rate (average) %



Source : nperf.com

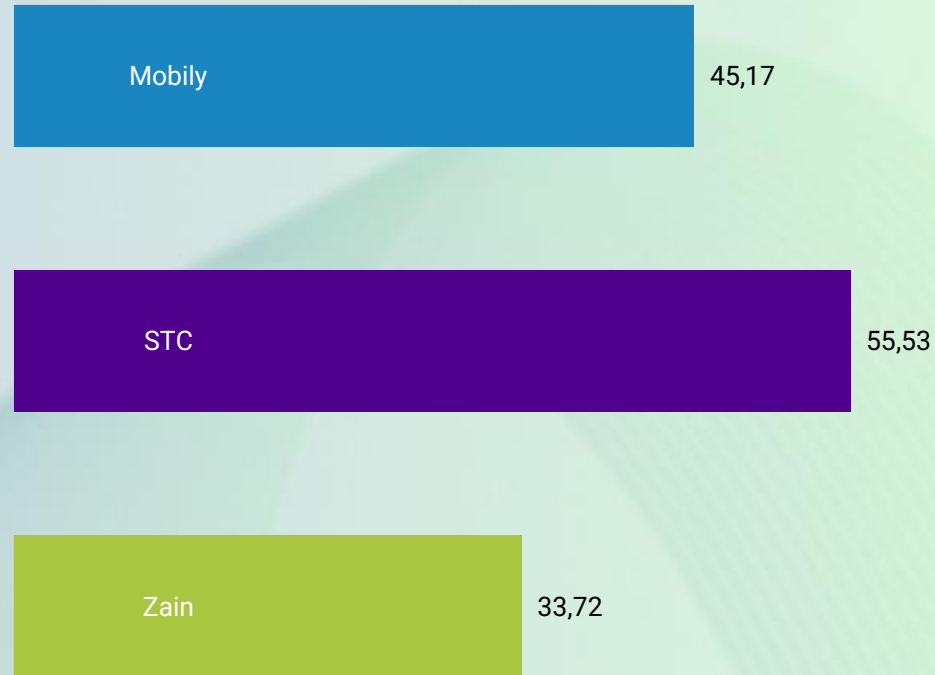
Streaming performance rate (average) evolution over the year



Source : nperf.com



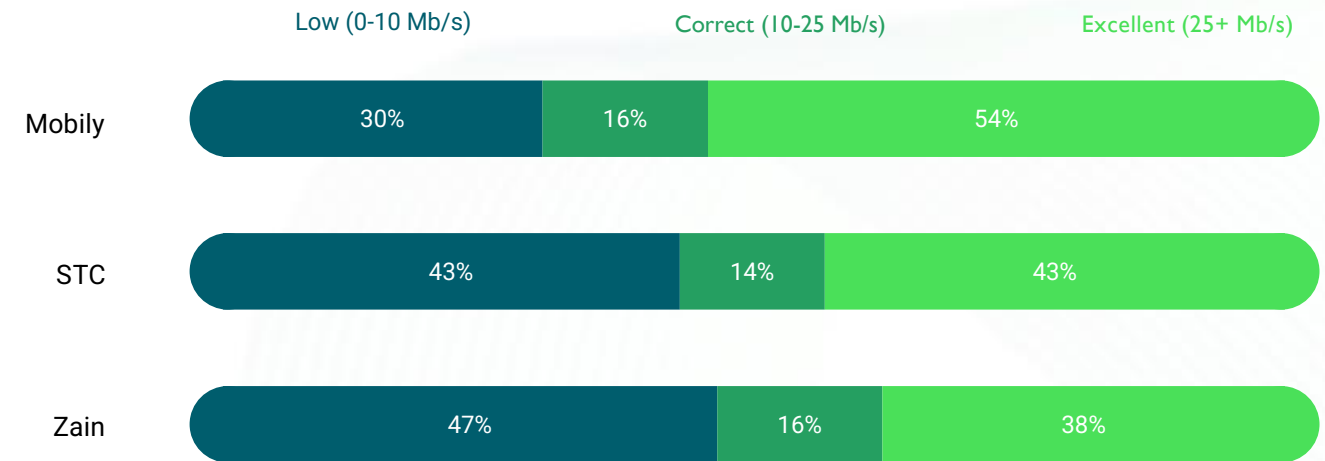
Download Speed (average) Mb/s



Source : nperf.com

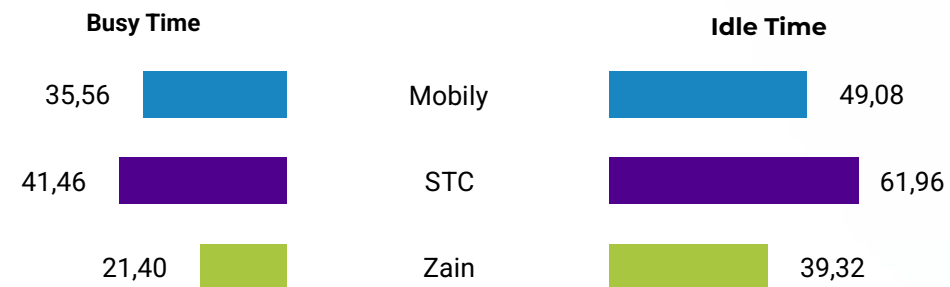
The subscribers of **STC** enjoyed the best average mobile Internet download speed in 2024.

Download Speed results ventilation (average)



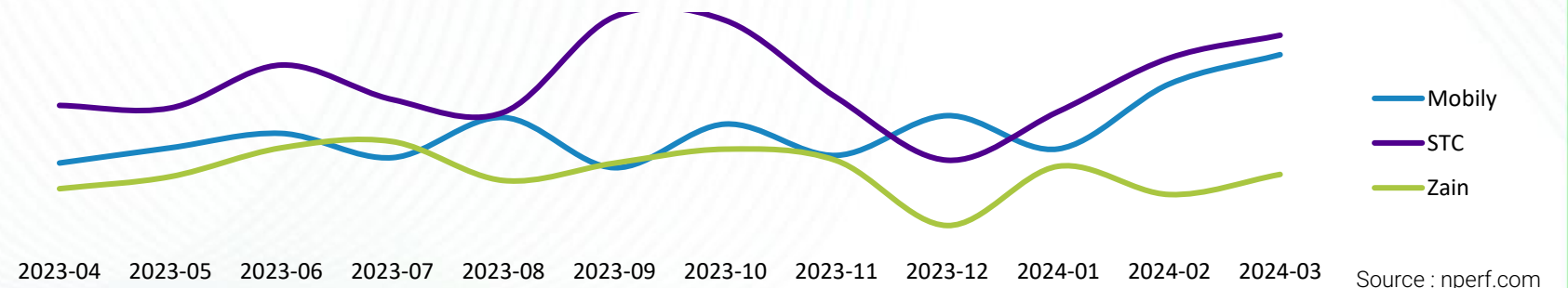
Source : nperf.com

Download Speed (average) Mb/s



Source : nperf.com

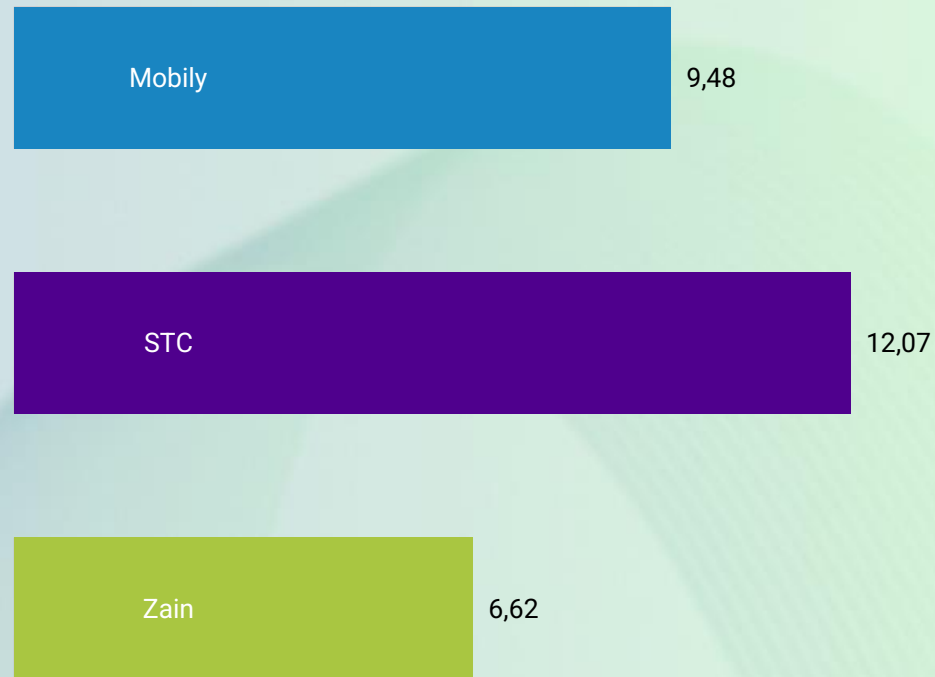
Download Speed evolution over the year (average)



Source : nperf.com



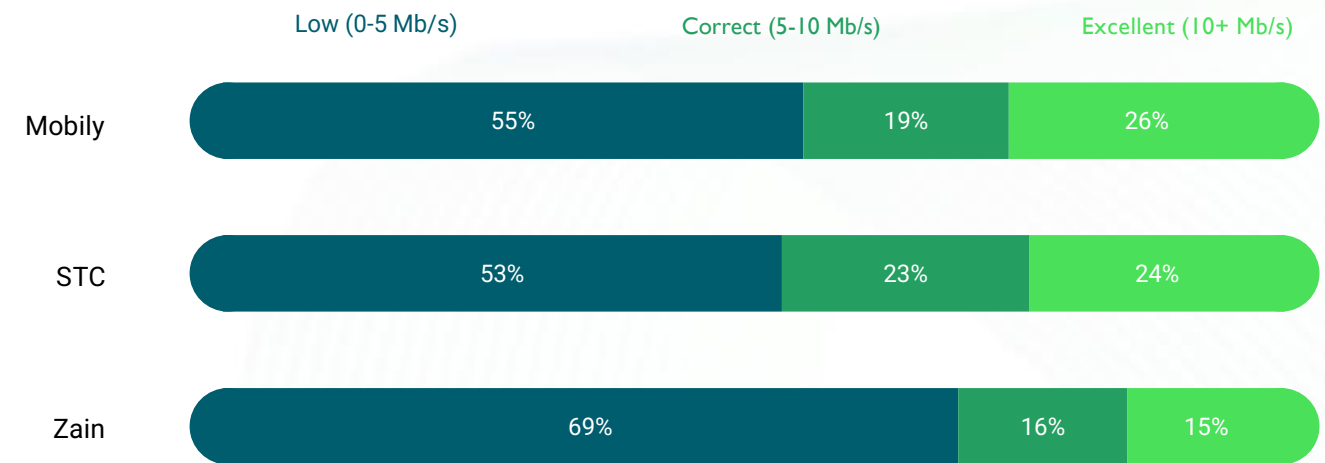
Upload Speed (average) Mb/s



Source : nperf.com

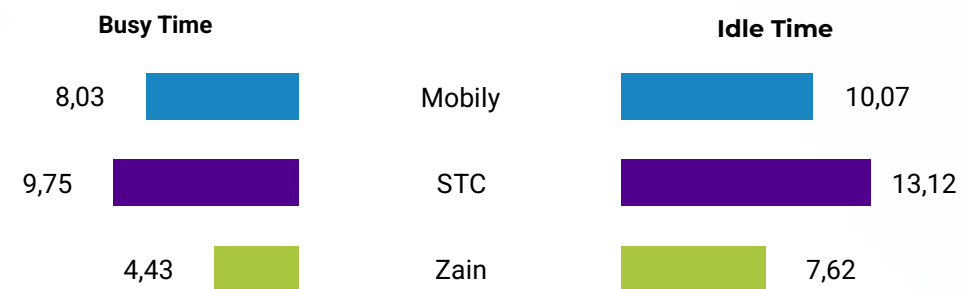
The subscribers of **STC** enjoyed the best average mobile Internet upload speed in 2024.

Upload Speed results ventilation (average)



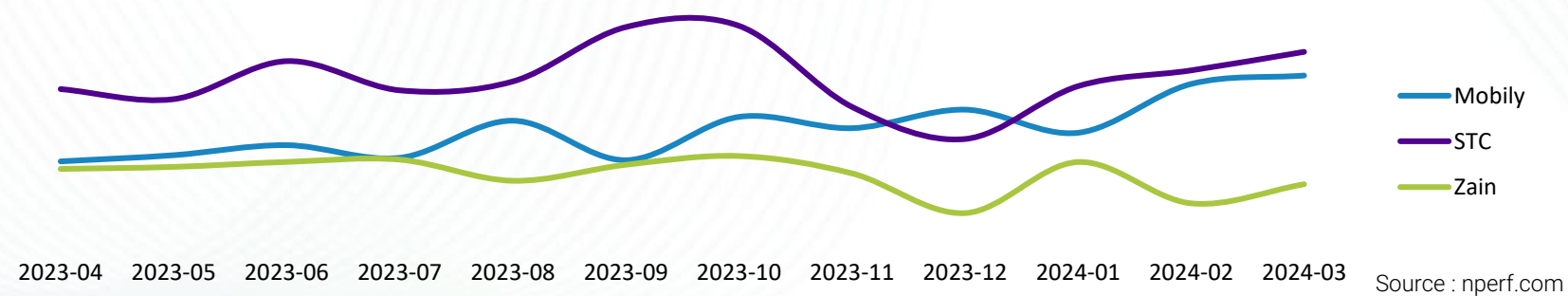
Source : nperf.com

Upload Speed (average) Mb/s



Source : nperf.com

Upload Speed evolution over the year (average)



Source : nperf.com



Latency Speed (average) ms



Source : nperf.com

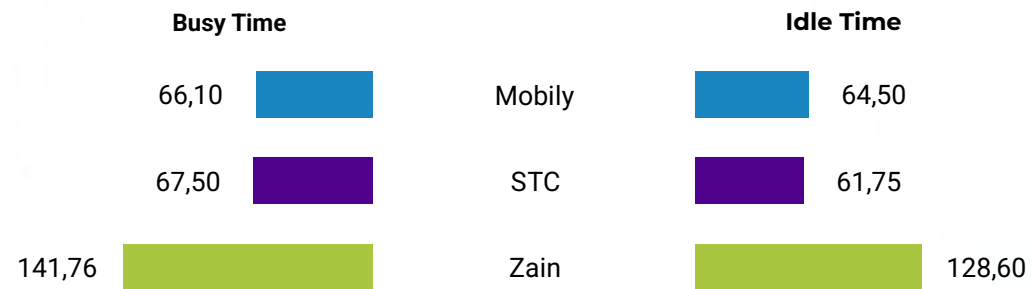
The subscribers of **Mobily** and **STC** enjoyed the best average mobile Internet latency speed in 2024.

Latency Speed results ventilation (average)



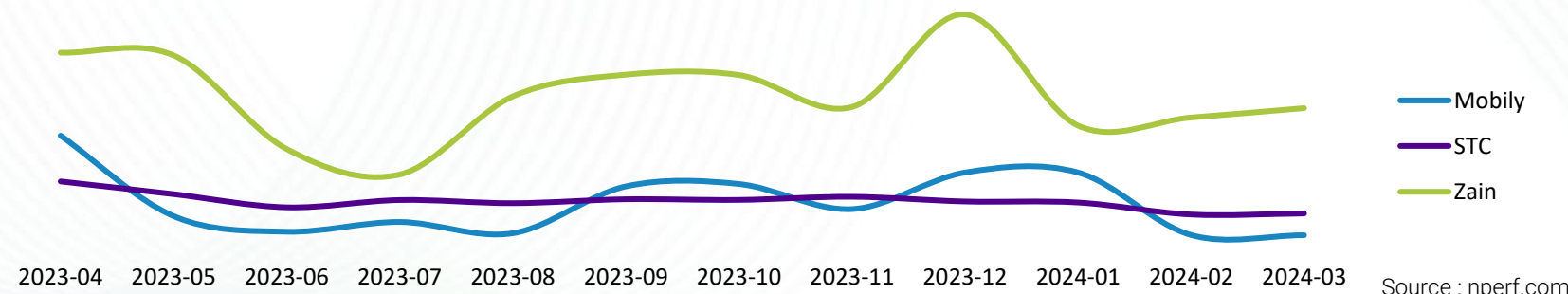
Source : nperf.com

Latency Speed (average) ms



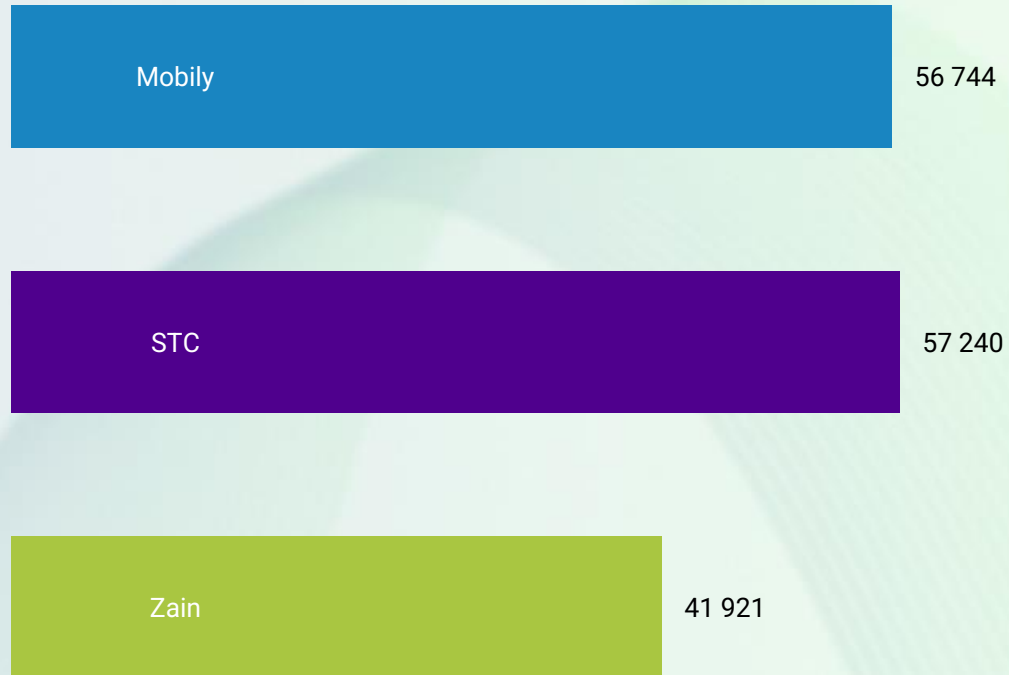
Source : nperf.com

Latency Speed evolution over the year (average)



Source : nperf.com

nPerf Score (nPoints)



Source : nperf.com

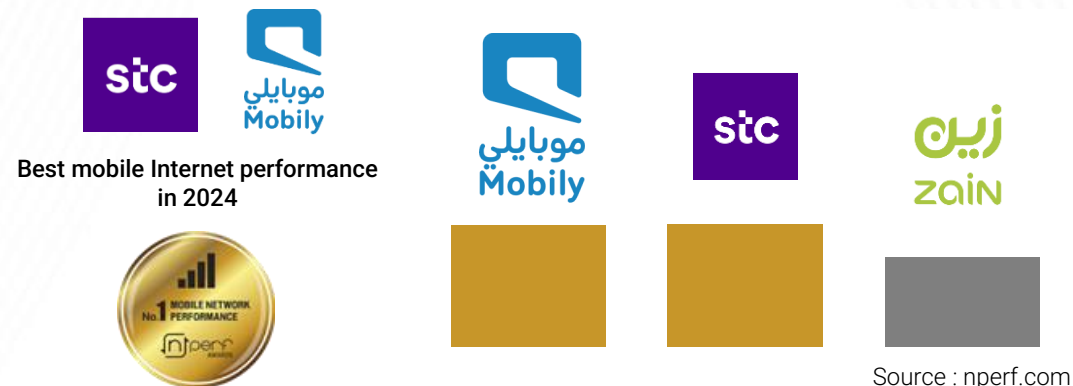
The subscribers of **Mobily** and **STC** enjoyed the best mobile Internet performances in Saudi Arabia during 2024.

The **nPerf score** takes into account the measured speeds, the latency and the QoE tests.

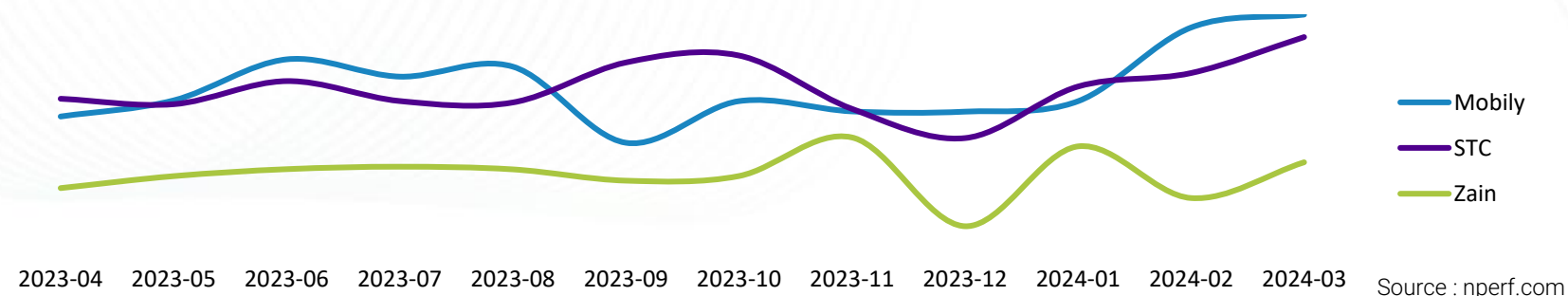
The value of the points for the rates and the latency is calculated on a logarithmic scale, to better represent the perception of the user.

Thus, this score reflects the overall quality of the connection experienced by the user.

Source : nperf.com



nPerf score evolution over the year (average)





We qualify your connection