Telecom Broadband Fiber Optic Cable Coverage in Papua New Guinea



Overview

PNG DataCo's ambitious roadmap for the internet in Papua New GuineaA total of 12,000 km of fibre-optic cables has been laid to date as part of PNG's broadb.

Key Takeaways

Papua New Guinea's broadband network, managed by PNG DataCo, spans over 12,000 km of fiber optic cables, covering 44 districts directly and reaching 70% of districts through fiber and satellite infrastructure. National Transmission Network (NTN)PNG DataCo operates the National Transmission Network (NTN), which includes more than 12,000 km of fiber optic cables connecting all 22 provinces and currently reaching 48 of the 96 districts directly via terrestrial fiber. The network also integrates 14 cable landing stations along the Kumul Submarine Cable Network, providing international connectivity to Australia and the Solomon Islands, and the Coral Sea Cable, linking PNG with Australia and the Solomon Islands.

This infrastructure supports low-latency, high-capacity broadband services for both government and enterprise users. District and Population CoveragePNG DataCo's network spans 67 out of 96 districts, with 44 districts connected via fiber optic and 23 districts via satellite, achieving a 70% district connectivity rate. While 80% of the population is notionally covered by broadband, actual mobile penetration remains lower, at 30–40%, highlighting ongoing efforts to increase adoption.

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Mobile and Carrier-

Neutral Expansion

To bridge connectivity gaps, PNG DataCo is collaborating with local governments to build 500 carrier-neutral mobile towers over three years, enabling mobile operators like Telikom, Digicel, and Vodafone to expand coverage economically. This initiative complements the fiber network by extending broadband access to remote and underserved areas. International ConnectivityPNG DataCo maintains six international Points of Presence (POPs) in Australia, Guam, Hong Kong, and Indonesia, sourcing Tier 1 IP transit and peering services.

These international links enhance global communication capabilities and support the growing demand for digital services in PNG.

Data Centers and Digital Infrastructure

The company operates tier-three data centers in Port Moresby and Madang, along with 51 satellite infrastructures, providing essential services for government, enterprise, and ISPs.

PN

G DataCo's ongoing investment of K592 million over three years aims to expand the NTN to all provinces by 2027, further modernizing the country's telecommunications landscape.

Summary

Papua New Guinea has made significant progress in fiber optic broadband deployment, with PNG DataCo leading the expansion of the National Transmission Network. While most of the population is covered in principle, actual usage and mobile adoption are still growing. The combination of fiber, satellite, and mobile tower infrastructure ensures that PNG is steadily improving connectivity, bridging the digital divide, and enhancing access to high-speed internet across the country.

Article Content

PNG DataCo''s ambitious roadmap for the internet in Papua New Guinea

A total of 12,000 km of fibre-optic cables has been laid to date as part of PNG''s broadband network, the National Transmission Network (NTN), which PNG DataCo – the state

PNG DataCo Coverage – PNG DataCo

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DataCo operates and maintains an extensive network of over 12,000km of fiber optic cable both internationally and locally. In addition, DataCo manages three tied data centers and 51 satellite

PNG DataCo Expands National Transmission Network with 12,000 km

This infrastructure supports a terrestrial fibre network that connects all 22 provinces and currently reaches 48 of the country''s 96 districts. Such extensive coverage is crucial for enhancing

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The proposed project covers about 2,100 kilometers of infrastructure, including 1,700 kilometers of fiber-optic cable along the Congo River from Muanda to Kisangani and nearly 400 kilometers of ...

Telikom PNG to work with Starlink in Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea''s state-owned telecom company is changing its approach as Starlink begins operating in the country, choosing to work together instead of compete.

Google, Australia Upgrade PNG Internet Infrastructure with 3 New Cables

Papua New Guinea''s internet infrastructure faces persistent challenges with slow speeds and high costs, largely due to limited undersea fibre optic cables linking the nation to the global network.

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Papua New Guinea National Broadband Plan 2022

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In Papua New Guinea, these challenges are magnified by the extent of rural and remote locations, including unconnected or poorly serviced islands and territories with difficult terrain. The Government

PNG DataCo Coverage

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PNG''s telco services improved over 10 years

Papua New Guinea''s telecommunications services have improved significantly over the past 10 years, with substantial government investment in terrestrial and submarine fiber optic cables,

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Telecommunications rollout speeds up

More than 12,000 km of fibre-optic cables have been built as part of PNG''s broadband network, the National Transmission Network, which the state-owned telecommunications wholesaler

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