

Operational statistics

Call growth

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
% growth in fixed network call volumes over the previous year:					
Inland	6	7	6	7	7
International (a)	6	5	9	7	9

(a) Outgoing, incoming and transit.

Exchange line connections

AT 31 MARCH

Business ('000)	6,129	6,459	6,798	7,160	7,521
% growth over previous year	3.1	5.4	5.2	5.3	5.0
Residential ('000)	20,471	20,613	20,500	20,393	20,130
% growth (reduction) over previous year	1.8	0.7	(0.5)	(0.5)	(1.3)
Total exchange line connections ('000)	26,600	27,072	27,298	27,553	27,651
% growth over previous year	2.1	1.8	0.8	0.9	0.4

Network modernisation

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% customer lines served by type of telephone exchange:

Digital	74.9	82.7	87.7	92.6	100.0
Semi-electronic	24.6	17.2	12.3	7.4	-
Electro-mechanical	0.5	0.1	-	-	-
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Optical fibre

AT 31 MARCH

Fibre – kilometres in the network ('000)	2,577	2,782	3,043	3,302	3,591
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Cellnet (Cellular telephones in the UK)

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Digital GSM ('000)	-	34	353	1,125	2,303
Analogue ('000)	1,019	1,700	2,036	1,573	774
Total	1,019	1,734	2,389	2,698	3,077

Payphones

AT 31 MARCH

Total public payphones in the UK ('000)	124	129	133	136	138
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People employed

AT 31 MARCH

Total employees ('000)	156.0	137.5	130.7	127.5	124.7
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