

VPN TEST 2024

VPN Testing and Certification by AV-TEST

Date of the test report: May 22nd, 2025 (version 1.00)

Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection



Executive Summary

AV-TEST performed a detailed evaluation of Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection, version 21.19.7.527-1 for Windows and version 11.118.4.12939 for Android, in November 2024. The review focused on performance and security aspects, with tests simulating everyday usage in an era that demands privacy and protection online. The testing framework covered connection stability, data throughput, encryption strength, and user anonymity.

The examination took into account local and overseas server locations, and torrent usage. The findings show that Kaspersky VPN delivers stable connections, powerful encryption, and effective safeguards against data leaks. It also offers a broad server network, supporting 89 countries with 110 server locations, and includes features such as an automatic kill switch on both Windows and Android. Payment and subscription details differ depending on the region, and a no-logging approach is used to safeguard personal activity data. To reflect typical user behavior, the performance evaluations focused on scenarios such as file uploads and downloads, torrenting, and streaming, mirroring the testing approaches from previous years. These tests provide an authentic representation of the VPN's practical performance and user experience.

Results in local testing revealed strong performance for torrent downloads, downloading and uploading, latency performance and everyday browsing. Even under overseas conditions, Kaspersky VPN maintained high speeds and low latency, enabling users to watch geo-restricted content and carry out large file transfers without slowdowns. The product keeps personal data confidential thanks to efficient Kill Switch and Leak Protection features, while remaining straightforward for both new and advanced users.

In summary, Kaspersky VPN meets high standards for security and convenience. The latest test results support its standing as a reliable solution for those who seek a secure VPN experience.

Key Findings:

Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection delivered strong results across a range of performance tests. It stands out in the VPN market with its robust performance. The service offers fast connection speeds, advanced encryption, and comprehensive privacy protection, making it an attractive option for users prioritizing online security.

1. **Connection Quality and Speed:** Testing revealed that Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection consistently maintains robust connection stability and high-speed performance increased year over year, facilitating uninterrupted online activities ensuring smooth performance for everyday browsing, streaming, online gaming with low latency, and efficient handling of large-scale data transfers with minimal speed loss. Kaspersky VPN continues to improve its performance and demonstrates even higher results in 2024 compared to 2023 due to under-the-hood improvements in server infrastructure and routing optimization:
 - a. In Local connections, Latency improved by 1% YoY, Download Speed improved by 64% YoY, Upload Speed improved by 33% YoY
 - b. In Oversea connections, Latency improved by 2% YoY, Download Speed is improved 3%, Upload speed decreased by 12% YoY following a 355% YoY increase in 2023, while maintaining stability throughout the entire testing period — ensuring reliable performance across all scenarios.

The solution demonstrated stable results across the testing period in Local and Oversea traffics for Download and Upload, Latency remained stable at levels suitable for gaming and voice communication.

2. **Advanced Encryption:** Kaspersky VPN uses top-tier encryption methods, including 256-bit AES encryption for Catapult Hydra and OpenVPN protocols, and chacha20-poly1305 for WireGuard, ensuring user data remains secure against advanced cyberthreats. This high level of encryption is paramount for users who manage sensitive information online.
3. **Privacy Protection:** The service is effective in concealing users' IP addresses, significantly reducing the risk of tracking and bolstering anonymity on the internet and includes protection designed to prevent leaks – all according DNS and IP leak testing.
 - a. The kill switch responded immediately on Windows and Android, reducing the possibility of accidental data exposure if the VPN connection dropped.
 - b. It offers automatic protection on unsecured Wi-Fi networks, ensuring user data stays safe in vulnerable environments. At the same time, split tunneling allows users to route only selected apps or data streams through the VPN, giving more granular control over traffic management.
 - c. Kaspersky VPN's privacy policy affirms that personal connection data is not recorded, and a separate transparency report notes zero data shared during the last published period.
4. **The product's feature set** is designed to meet a wide range of user needs and usage scenarios, including streaming, torrenting, and gaming, where performance, speed, and selective routing often play a critical role.
5. **The service supports** multiple platforms, including Windows, macOS, iOS and Android – as well as Linux, AndroidTV, FireTV and VPN-compatible routers (via manual setup using OpenVPN or WireGuard).

Meeting all certification criteria, Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection has got “Approved” certification badge into the record of previous years certifications¹, and it is complemented by certification of Kaspersky Premium².



1

2020: <https://www.av-test.org/en/news/6-vpn-packages-put-to-the-test-under-windows-10/>

2021: <https://www.av-test.org/en/news/vpn-packages-for-private-users-put-to-the-test-under-windows-10/>

2022: <https://www.av-test.org/en/news/vpn-packages-put-to-the-test-more-security-and-anonymous-paths/>

2022: https://www.av-test.org/fileadmin/pdf/reports/AV-TEST_Kaspersky_VPN_Test_Report_December_2022.pdf

2023: <https://www.av-test.org/en/news/kaspersky-vpn-test-report-2023/>

2024: https://www.av-test.org/fileadmin/pdf/reports/AV-TEST_Kaspersky_VPN_Test_Report_December_2024.pdf

2

2024: https://www.av-test.org/fileadmin/pdf/reports/AV-TEST_Kaspersky_Premium_VPN_Test_Report_December_2024.pdf

Virtual Private Networks (VPNs)

Virtual Private Networks, known widely as VPNs, are crucial for enhancing online security and ensuring the privacy of internet users. They establish a protected, encrypted channel for data to traverse the internet, which is a necessity for making sensitive info unreadable for intruders and for concealing users' identities. VPNs act as a shield for secure communication, essential for both personal and corporate use, to prevent unauthorized access to private networks and to keep data confidential.

The primary function of VPNs is to secure data through encryption, making it difficult for cybercriminals to capture and decrypt information in transit. They also hide users' IP addresses, which adds a layer of anonymity and shields personal details including user's geo-location. VPNs are also valuable for bypassing regional restrictions on content, which can be advantageous for personal entertainment and professional tasks. In business scenarios, they enable secure remote network access, allowing employees to work from anywhere without compromising company data and security.

Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection

Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection is designed to offer encrypted access to the internet while defending user data. The evaluation confirmed that the product meets important requirements expected of a trusted VPN service, including advanced encryption, leak protection, and strong performance across local and international servers.

For Windows, macOS, Android, and iOS, users have the option to choose between WireGuard and Hydra protocols. The product offers OpenVPN protocol support on Linux, Chrome OS, Android and Fire TV and routers. All platforms utilize AES-256 encryption, a widely recognized industry standard for its robust security. Additionally, the product maintains user anonymity through a strict no-logging policy, ensuring that user traffic is not recorded.

Payment options (credit cards, bank transfers, and so forth) and policies vary by region, though trial periods and money-back guarantees are available worldwide. A 7 or 15-day trial period is available depending on the region, and there is a 30-day money-back guarantee. Licensing is available for between one and ten devices depending on the country.

A vital feature is the kill switch, which halts data transfers if the VPN connection fails. This function proved to be highly efficient in testing, with no recorded potential exposure. The product also successfully passed DNS leak checks and IP leak tests in both Windows and Android environments.

Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection's global server network stands at 89 countries and 110 server locations, supporting access to geo-blocked content and streaming platforms. The service's interface is straightforward, making it easy for newcomers to switch servers or fine-tune settings, while advanced users can tweak protocols or enable Double VPN, which routes traffic through two servers for enhanced privacy.

Introduction

This report examines the performance and privacy protection capabilities of Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in 2024, analyzing its ability to safeguard users in an increasingly complex digital landscape. As cyber threats evolve, virtual private networks have become critical in protecting digital identities and sensitive information.

The test program simulated diverse real-world usage scenarios across multiple platforms and network conditions. Our evaluation included comprehensive assessments of typical browsing, file-sharing, and network connectivity interruptions. These tests rigorously examined the VPN's core capabilities: maintaining consistent encryption, preventing data leaks, and delivering reliable performance.

By testing the VPN under conditions that mirror authentic user experiences, the aim is to provide a transparent assessment of its capabilities, helping users make informed decisions about their online privacy and security strategies.

Coverage Assessment

The analysis focused on Kaspersky VPN's effectiveness across three global regions: Asia (Japan), Europe (Netherlands), and the United States (East Coast). The goal was to see if the product could deliver stable connections, robust encryption, and strong privacy measures in different parts of the world. Testers checked DNS leak prevention, WebRTC leak protection and torrent speeds.

Data was collected by comparing the product's speeds against a reference system that had no VPN. This approach ensured that any slowdown was attributed to the VPN itself, rather than the tester's network or hardware. Tests were repeated daily during a week to capture any variations that might occur from server congestion or other external factors.

Quality of Protection Assessment

Kaspersky VPN's protection includes multiple elements: strong encryption to prevent data theft, leak checks to ensure that IP addresses and DNS requests remain hidden, and a kill switch that blocks data transmission if the VPN disconnects. The service consistently shielded the user's real IP address, even under conditions where the network was intentionally interrupted.

The encryption uses 256-bit AES, which is recognized as a robust cipher. The available protocols—Hydra, WireGuard, and OpenVPN—allow users to balance speed and security, depending on their priorities. The DNS leak test results indicated that the VPN masks the user's internet provider information, and the kill switch was tested by simulating different network disruptions (disabling the router, turning off WAN, and more).

Test Results of Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection

Review of Key Features

Kaspersky VPN includes convenient functions such as automatic reconnection after system reboot and the option to keep using a previous connection setting. Additionally, the following features are available for special scenarios: Double VPN, Streaming, Torrenting, Gaming Support. A free trial is offered, along with a money-back policy of up to 7 or 15 days. Licensing covers 1-3-5-10 devices per subscription depending on the country, and this can be useful for households or small offices.

Payment methods vary to address regional specifics. Some regions support credit cards or bank transfers, while others use other methods.

The product supports Windows (8, 10, 11), macOS, Linux (via OpenVPN or WireGuard), and ChromeOS (via OpenVPN or WireGuard). Mobile platforms include iOS, Android, AndroidTV (via OpenVPN or WireGuard), and FireTV (via OpenVPN or WireGuard), and other devices like routers with OpenVPN or WireGuard inside.

Usability

During the test, Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection demonstrated straightforward installation and setup. It supports manual configuration in situations such as routers or open-source VPN apps. The interface has a clear layout, enabling users to pick server locations easily for diverse scenarios including streaming, torrenting, gaming. Additional features like split tunneling let people exclude certain applications or data from the VPN channel. This can be important for tasks where a local connection is preferred.

Security

The service passed DNS leak tests on both Windows and Android. No IP addresses were revealed, even under stress tests involving kill switch activations. The kill switch worked promptly in every scenario, shutting down the network connection whenever the VPN tunnel dropped, and returning it once a secure connection was reestablished.

Tests with torrenting revealed that the real location was not exposed. This is beneficial for those who share files through peer-to-peer networks. Email leak checks also indicated that user IP addresses stayed hidden on Windows and Android.

Privacy

Kaspersky states that it does not log any data transferred through the VPN tunnel. Data that is gathered (like device information or software usage patterns) is kept only as long as needed, and the company's official policies refer to compliance with local laws. The encryption used across the service is AES-256. Ads and trackers are not blocked by default, as the focus remains on encryption and IP protection, and it is possible for user to switch it on.

Transparency

Kaspersky maintains a practice of sharing data about government requests and overall security measures through regular transparency updates.

Kaspersky asserts its adherence to all relevant legal frameworks. If expressly required by law, Kaspersky informs users about their data processing rights³. Furthermore, Kaspersky has introduced and supports the Global Transparency Initiative and regularly publishes updates⁴. Even in situations where applicable law does not mandate the provision of certain warranties and rights, Kaspersky states it consistently adheres to the highest standards of data processing⁵.

The most recent report (H2 2024) stated that there were no data disclosures during that period. Users can access earlier reports on Kaspersky's transparency center website for a broader view of how often such requests arise.

Past audit efforts have concentrated on Kaspersky's general environment and internal controls, rather than the VPN product in isolation. The company has completed periodic SOC 2 audits, most recently covering August 2023 to July 2024, verifying that its operational and security controls follow accepted standards. No critical issues were identified during that time. Earlier reviews in 2019 and 2023 also looked at security practices, though these reviews primarily addressed the organization's broader processes rather than the VPN specifically.

Kaspersky has chosen not to use a warrant canary for its VPN service. Instead, the company emphasizes a firm approach to legal requests, verifying each one for legitimacy under the laws in the applicable jurisdiction. This method aligns with Kaspersky's stated aim of protecting user data whenever possible while still observing legal obligations.

Kaspersky's transparency measures are a part of its larger Global Transparency Initiative. Although these efforts do not revolve solely around the VPN, they illustrate the company's overall commitment to consistent handling of user data. Individuals can consult Kaspersky's public transparency materials for additional details on data sharing, security testing, and corporate processes that might affect the VPN's reliability and trustworthiness.

Service Accessibility

The VPN's global network includes servers in 89 countries, with a total of 110 server locations. Torrenting is supported, and the service helps in viewing geo-blocked streaming sites, including Netflix in the US. Support is offered through chat, forums, and direct contact with the company. Automatic network protection is available, which can trigger the VPN to connect when an unencrypted Wi-Fi is detected.

³ <https://www.kaspersky.com/vpn-secure-connection-transparency-security>

⁴ <https://www.kaspersky.com/transparency-center#QA>

⁵ <https://www.kaspersky.com/about/transparency>

Review of Key Performances

Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection performance was tested under local and overseas conditions. The goal was to measure how encryption affects standard activities like torrenting, file downloads and uploads, and everyday browsing. The tests used reference speeds as a benchmark, ensuring that any slowdowns could be attributed to the VPN.

Torrent Performance

The performance test measured torrent download speeds for Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection across local and international servers in Asia, Europe, and the United States. By connecting to the nearest available server, the study found consistent download speeds across different regions, suggesting the VPN maintains reliable performance without significant speed degradation.

Kaspersky VPN demonstrated robust file transfer capabilities, maintaining speeds close to the unprotected baseline. While overseas connections showed expected speed reductions, the VPN still delivered functional throughput for file transfer needs, ensuring users can reliably download large files with minimal performance compromise.

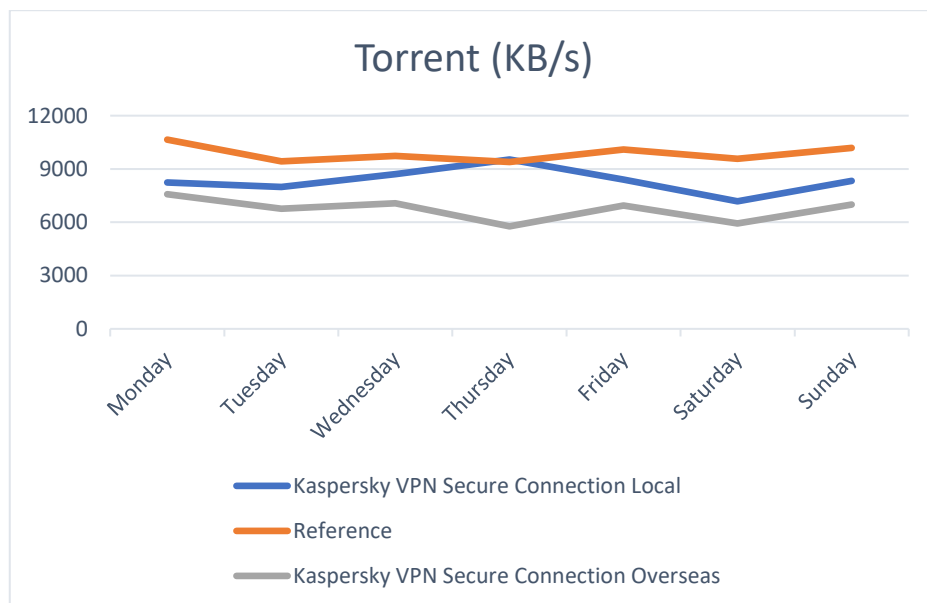


Figure 1: Torrent Performance - Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection vs. Reference. This graph provides a analysis of Torrent performance by comparing Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection with the reference measures in both local and overseas geographical contexts.

Local Performances

Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection's local performance in 2024 was evaluated by examining download speeds, upload rates throughput, and latency within the same region. The focus was on how well the VPN could maintain stable connections and support common activities like file downloading, browsing, and gaming. This chapter reviews the key observations from these local tests, highlighting areas such as speed consistency and responsiveness compared to an unprotected reference system.

Local latency rose only slightly compared to an unprotected link, meaning that most voice, gaming, and real-time uses will continue without disruption.

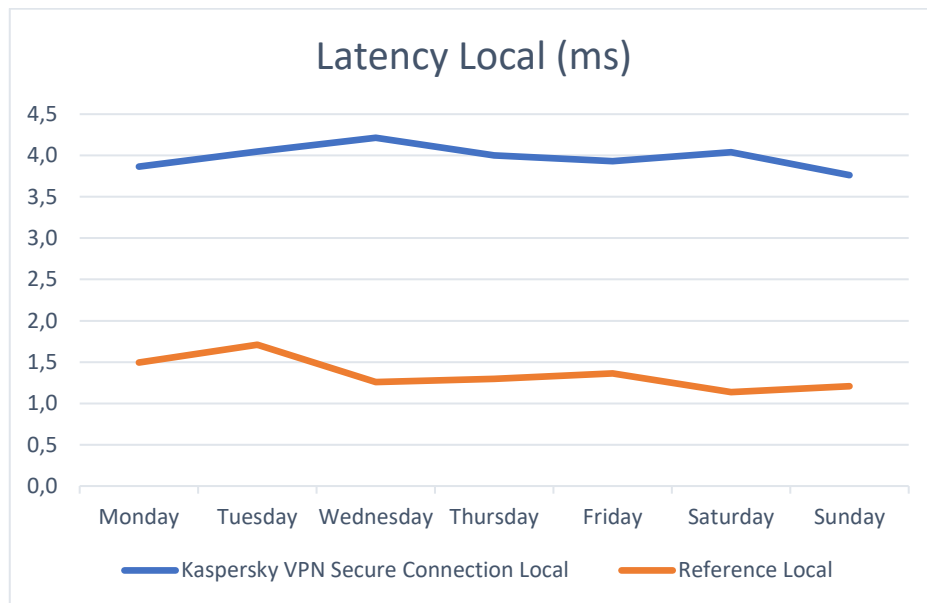


Figure 2: Local Latency - Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection vs. Reference. Presents an analysis of latency performance in a local geographical context, comparing Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection with the reference measures.

Throughout the test week, both the download and upload speeds consistently reached 2800+ Mbps, irrespective of the day or direct connection fluctuations, with performance ultimately constrained by the VPN tunneling bandwidth.

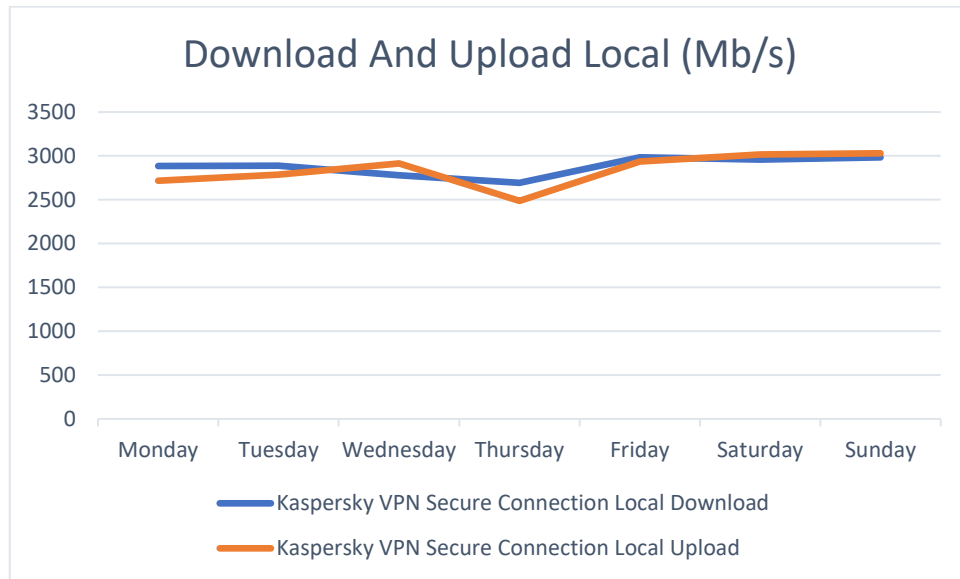


Figure 3: Local Upload and Download Speeds - Showcases the upload and download speeds achieved with Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in a local geographical context.

Overseas Performances

Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection's performance overseas in 2024 showed reliable outcomes across various regions, reflecting how well the service operates when connecting to distant servers. While some speed reduction is typical over long distances, the VPN maintained practical download and upload rates, and torrent throughput stayed sufficient for routine tasks. Latency increased predictably with distance; however, this minor increase would still allow normal online activities, including voice calls and file transfers.

This section discusses how the VPN performed in different global locations, focusing on any shifts from local speeds and user experience.

Despite the expected increase in ping times with physical distance, the difference was too small to disrupt collaborative activities like conference calls or web-based work.

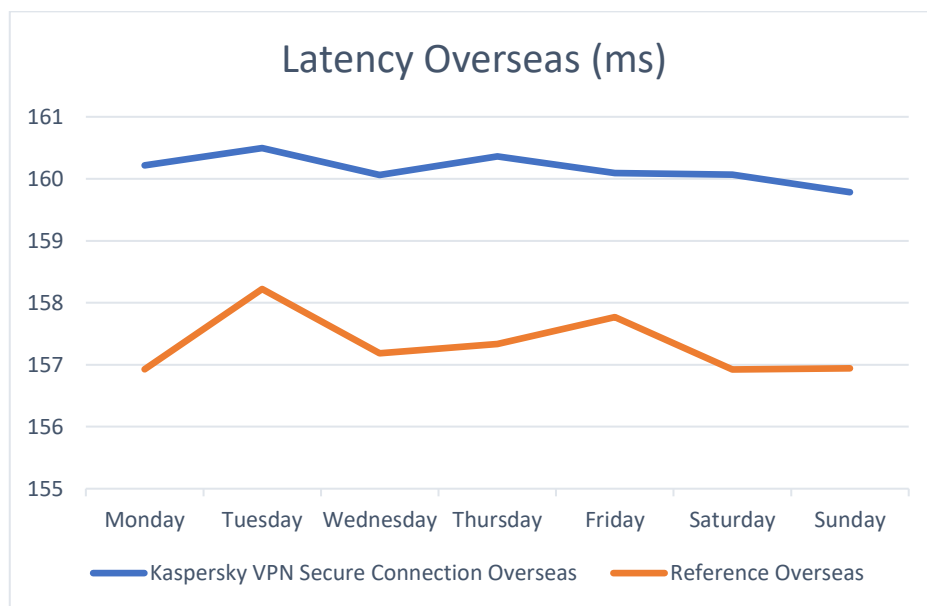


Figure 4: Overseas Latency - Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection vs. Reference. Analyzes latency performance in overseas geographical contexts, comparing Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection with the reference measures.

Throughout the test week, the download speed consistently reached 1400+ Mbps, independent of the day or direct connection fluctuations, while the upload speed averaged a stable 574 Mbps.

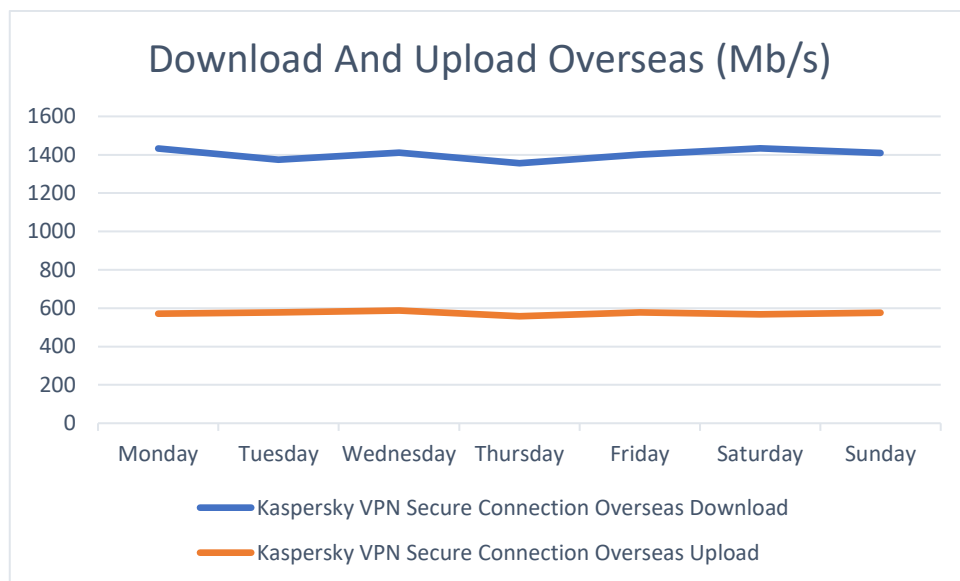


Figure 5: Upload and Download Speeds - Showcases the upload and download speeds achieved with Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in an overseas geographical context.

Overall

The 2024 performance tests for Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection demonstrated strong and consistent results across both local and international scenarios.

Users located near their selected servers experienced torrent download speeds close to baseline levels, with negligible increases in latency. Even across long-distance connections, speed reductions remained moderate and did not hinder typical use.

Kaspersky VPN maintained stable, uninterrupted connections and reliably protected user data throughout all testing, reinforcing its ability to support a wide range of everyday online activities — from file transfers and streaming to remote work and secure browsing — with minimal performance impact.

Kaspersky VPN – 2023 vs 2024 Performance Comparison

Comparing local results from 2023 and 2024 reveals that Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection has preserved a similar level of reliability and speed. The tests considered torrent downloads, latency and download- as well as upload- capacity in each period. By examining reference ratios and figures side by side, this chapter identifies any subtle shifts in local and overseas performances and evaluates whether the VPN's encryption overhead has changed since the previous year.

Torrent Performance

Comparing torrent performance across 2023 and 2024 reveals subtle yet consistent results. In 2023, local torrent downloads ranged between 90-110% of the reference speed, with overseas speeds around 70-80% of local figures. The 2024 tests showed nearly identical patterns, maintaining local speeds near the unprotected baseline and preserving practical overseas file-sharing capabilities. While both years demonstrated similar performance, the 2024 tests suggested more stable overseas connections, potentially indicating some improvements in server infrastructure or routing optimization.

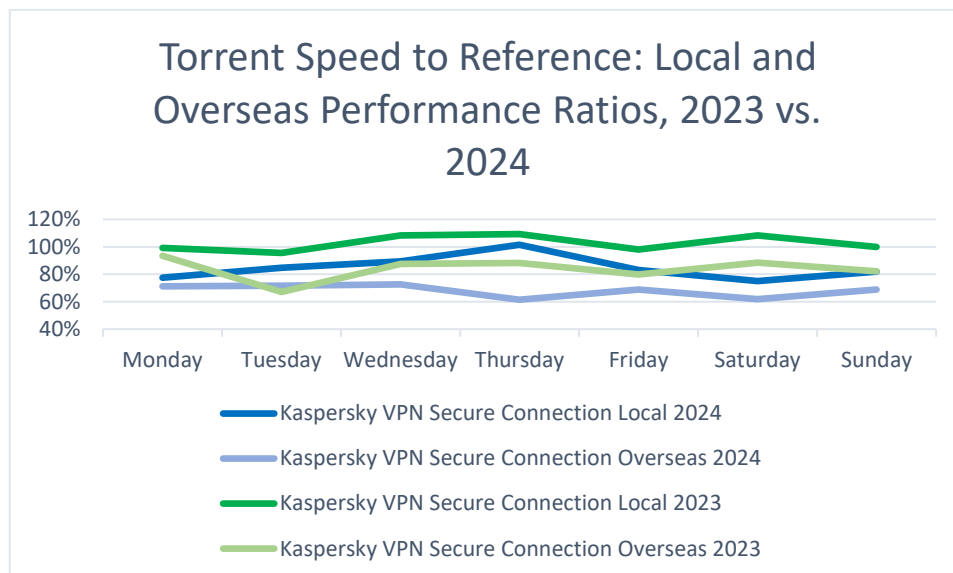


Figure 6: This graph compares the percentage impact of Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection on torrent download speeds, both locally and overseas, for 2023 and 2024, across each day of the week.

Local Download, Upload and Latency

Examining local performance data from 2023 and 2024 reveals significant advancements in key metrics. Average local download speeds increased dramatically by 64% from 1758 Mbps in 2023 to 2882 Mbps in 2024. Similarly, local upload speeds saw a substantial 32% rise from approximately 2131 Mbps to 2840 Mbps. Importantly, latency remained consistently at acceptable levels for real-time applications like gaming and voice communication across both periods. These substantial performance gains in 2024 signify a notable improvement in the VPN's local network efficiency.

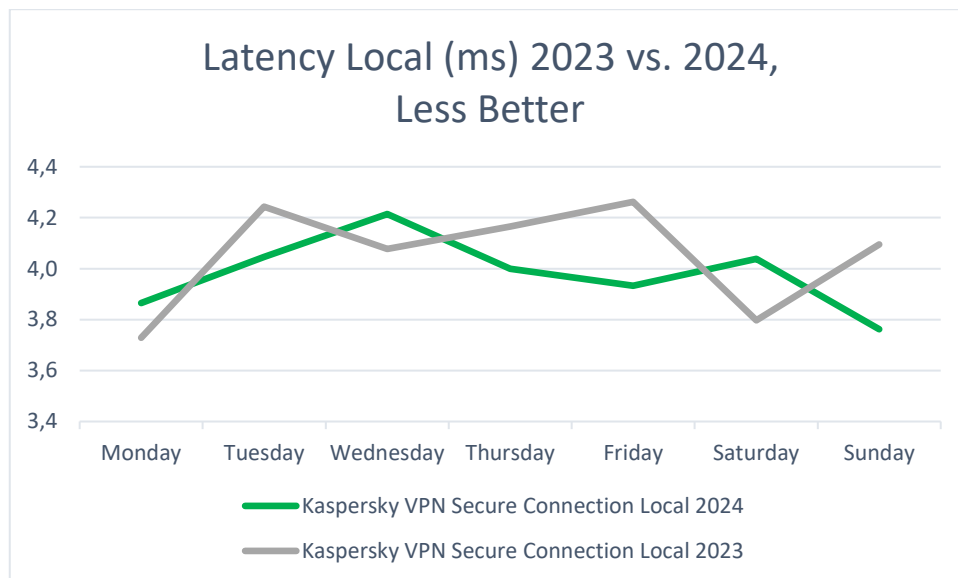


Figure 7: Local Latency - Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in test of 2024 vs. Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in test of 2023. Presents an analysis of latency performance in a local geographical context.

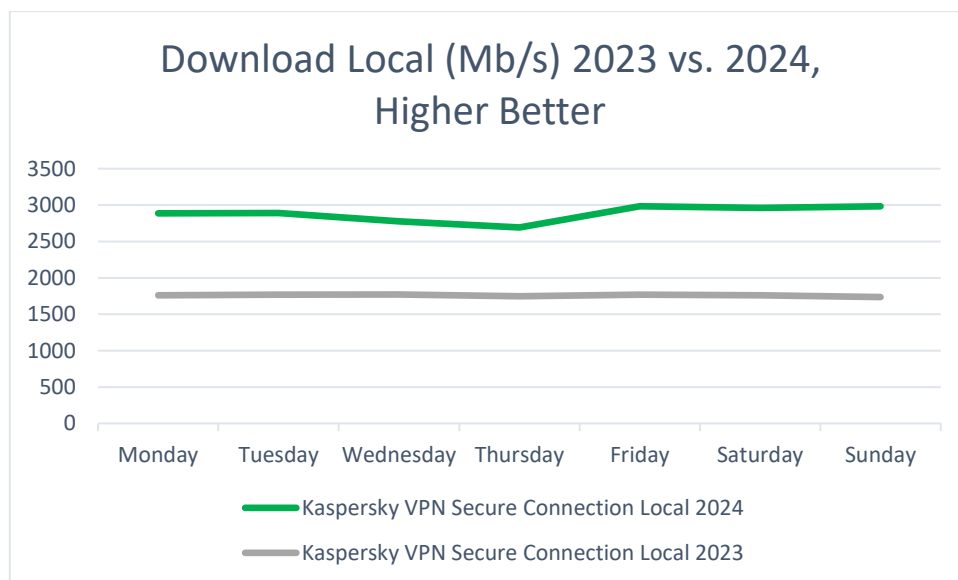


Figure 8: Local Download Speed - Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in test of 2024 vs. Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in test of 2023. Showcases the download speeds achieved with Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in a local geographical context.

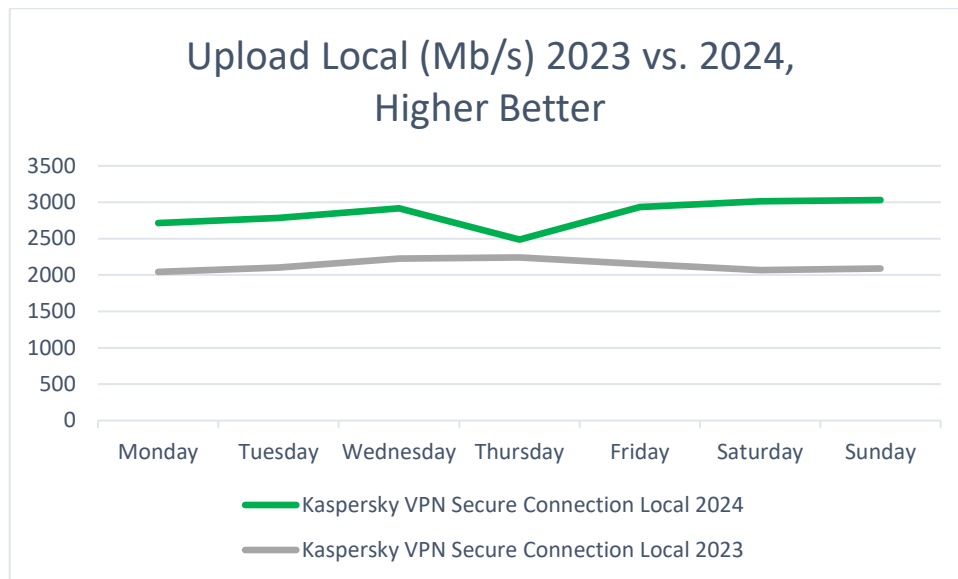


Figure 9: Local Upload Speed - Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in test of 2024 vs. Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in test of 2023. Compares the upload speeds achieved using Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in a local geographical contexts.

Oversea Download, Upload and Latency

Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection's performance overseas shows a steady trend when comparing 2023 and 2024 results. While long-distance connections typically experience greater speed loss and increased latency than local ones, the VPN maintained adequate throughput for activities like torrenting and file transfers in both years.

Examining overseas performance from 2023 to 2024 reveals a nuanced picture of VPN capabilities.

In 2023, average overseas download speeds reached 1355 Mbps, while upload speeds averaged 634 Mbps. 2024 testing revealed stable year-over-year performance, with overseas download speeds increasing by 3% to 1402 Mbps and upload speeds decreasing by 12% to 574 Mbps. This slight reduction in upload speed is offset by the consistent performance observed despite channel fluctuations during testing. These minor variations reflect the dynamic nature of global networks, highlighting the VPN's adaptability across regions. Consequently, the service maintained reliable connectivity, ensuring effective online activities for users on international networks.

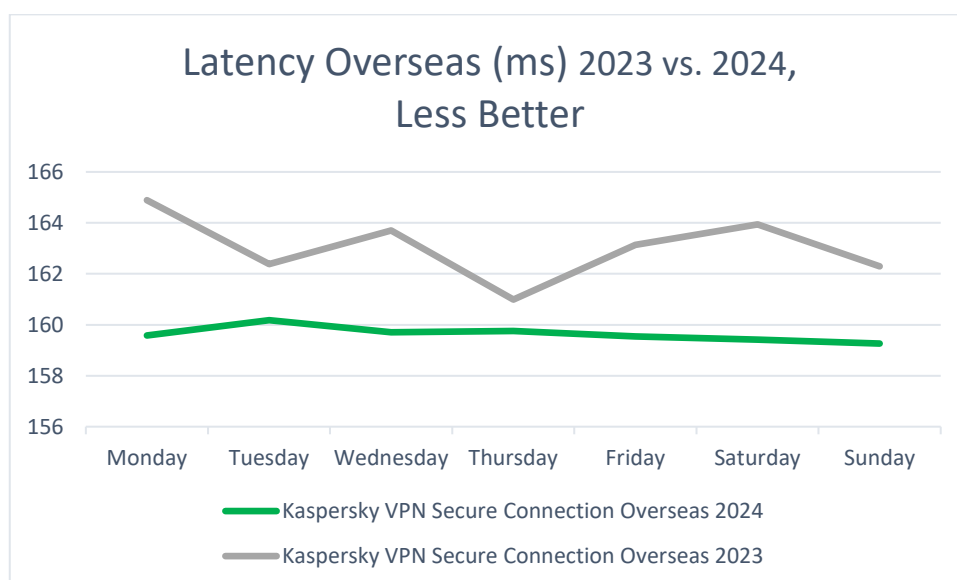


Figure 10: Overseas Latency - Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in test of 2024 vs. Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in test of 2023. Analyzes latency performance in overseas geographical contexts.

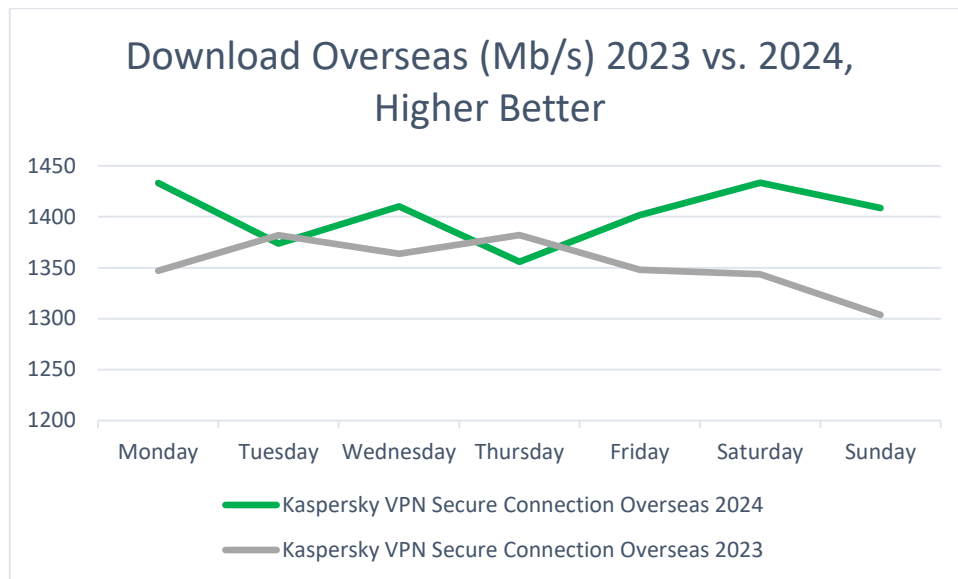


Figure 11: Overseas Download Speed - Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in test of 2024 vs. Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in test of 2023. Showcases the download speeds in overseas geographical contexts.

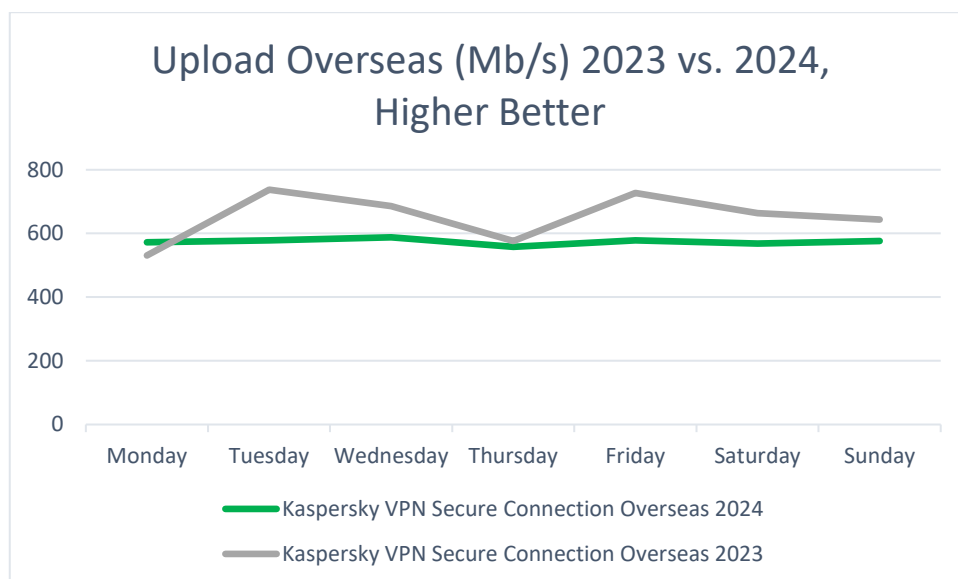


Figure 12: Overseas Upload Speed - Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in test of 2024 vs. Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection in test of 2023. Compares the upload speeds in overseas geographical contexts.

Overall

Taken together, the comparative analysis of Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection from 2023 to 2024 shows that the product has improved its core performance strengths. Local connection testing revealed year to year improvements and ensures that gaming and file sharing remain feasible. Overseas results confirm that, while distance inevitably impacts speed, the VPN delivers practical rates for everyday needs. The underlying performance metrics—torrent speeds, download/upload throughput, and latency—indicate continuity in the VPN's overall capabilities.

Test Results Summary

Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection was tested in a variety of performance environments, covering local and overseas servers. The product showed robust features, including auto-reconnect, a wide array of payment methods (though limited in some areas), and a kill switch that worked on both Windows and Android. DNS and IP leak prevention was consistent, and the product's no-logging stance was upheld.

Local tests showed high torrent speeds, approaching reference levels. Download and upload speeds demonstrated improvement year to year, with only minor latency increase, which is typical for encrypted connections and is unlikely to disrupt everyday use.

In overseas tests, Kaspersky VPN continued to perform well for file-sharing. Latency and download speed reached higher values year to year on international links, with minor decrease of upload speed after significant speed boost in 2023. In general, this makes the product a good choice for watching media or downloading data without user experience affection.

Overall, Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection continues to stand out as a dependable solution for online activities, providing privacy, security, and performance at high values. The encryption overhead does not hinder typical internet tasks, and the kill switch in combination with strong leak protection adds confidence for users.

Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection has earned an "Approved" certification from AV-TEST for 2024, marking the fifth consecutive year of recognition for consistent performance and ease of use.⁶ The certification is complemented by certification of Kaspersky Premium.⁷



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2020: <https://www.av-test.org/en/news/6-vpn-packages-put-to-the-test-under-windows-10/>

2021: <https://www.av-test.org/en/news/vpn-packages-for-private-users-put-to-the-test-under-windows-10/>

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2024: https://www.av-test.org/fileadmin/pdf/reports/AV-TEST_Kaspersky_Premium_VPN_Test_Report_December_2024.pdf