



Connect Iowa Releases New Broadband Access Figures

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Iowa's broadband access gap is shrinking; 94% of households now have access to fixed broadband speeds of 3 Mbps or higher

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Des Moines – New research unveiled today by Connect Iowa shows that the broadband availability gap in the state is shrinking, with 94.5% of Iowa households now having access to broadband speeds of 3 Mbps download or higher, compared to 93.5% just six months ago.

Nonprofit Connect Iowa has been working since 2009 to ensure that Iowans have access to the economic, educational, and quality of life benefits derived from increased broadband access, adoption, and use.

Among the findings of the new broadband availability research are:

- 94.5% of Iowa households now have access to fixed broadband at advertised speeds of 3 Mbps download/768 Kbps upload which means approximately 67,000 households are in areas eligible for Connect America Fund broadband deployment subsidies.
- 96.4% of rural households in Iowa have access to fixed broadband of at least 768 Kbps download/200 Kbps upload, leaving 24,400 Iowa households unable to

connect to basic high-speed Internet.

- Only 3.4% of Iowa households have access to fixed broadband speeds of at least 100 Mbps download/1.5 Mbps upload.

Note: The data in this report are subject to data validation.

“We are excited to see steady growth in broadband availability and Internet connection speed across the state,” said Connect Iowa State Program Manager Amy Kuhlers. “These latest access numbers show us how our work towards better broadband access, adoption, and use in Iowa is paying off and also helps us better understand where our future efforts need to be focused in order to ensure we can eventually help the remaining 24,000 Iowans who remain unserved and the nearly 67,000 who have speeds too slow to meet the minimum national standard of 3 Mbps.”

All of Connect Iowa’s research and maps are available through the [Connect Iowa website](#) and through its broadband mapping tool called [My ConnectView™](#). Residents and businesses are encouraged to use the interactive map to find the broadband providers in their area and help validate the data. Residents are also encouraged to join their local [Connected](#) technology team to help tailor the broadband expansion plan for their community.

Connect Iowa’s research was conducted as part of the Iowa State Broadband Initiative (SBI) grant program, funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Connect Iowa, through its parent organization Connected Nation, undergoes a comprehensive data collection process to publish new maps twice a year. The process begins by contacting all known providers in the state and providing information about the broadband mapping project. Information on broadband service areas is collected from each willing provider through voluntary participation. The data is then independently verified through engineering studies, site visits, propagation models, and consumer feedback. The FCC is using this data to direct broadband subsidies. More information about the broadband mapping process is provided in the [Broadband Mapping FAQ](#).

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About Connect Iowa: Connect Iowa is a subsidiary of Connected Nation and operates as a nonprofit in the state of Iowa to promote broadband access, adoption, and use. The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) is leading the initiative to increase broadband Internet access throughout rural Iowa. Connect Iowa was commissioned by the state to work with all broadband providers in Iowa to create detailed maps of broadband coverage and develop a statewide plan for the deployment and adoption of broadband. For more information visit: www.connectiowa.org.

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