



Approximately 55% Alabama of households do not have affordable or reliable broadband access. [State Senator Clay Scofield](#) described this issue as “the infrastructure challenge of our day.”

The FCC evaluated 4.9 million people in Alabama and found that 87.6% (4.3 million) of the population have access to a fixed connection at minimum broadband speeds. In rural Alabama, it evaluated two million people and found that 1.4 million (73%) had fixed broadband access. In urban areas, the agency concluded that 97.8% of 2.8 million residents had access to a fixed connection at minimum speeds.

The [State of Alabama’s broadband map](#) uses FCC availability and allows users to review data in layers that highlight unserved and served areas overlaid with approved projects. Alabama also offers a [speed survey](#) for users to collect more granular information about broadband speeds. In terms of private mapping efforts, [geoISP](#) has also collected broadband availability data. The information is collected from a number of public and private sources which shows availability by provider and allows users to look at broadband availability in specific towns in Alabama.

It is also worth noting that Microsoft’s November 2019 data show that around 3.3 million people in Alabama, over 65% of the population, did not use the Internet at broadband speeds.

Additional Resources:

- [Lawmakers: Broadband access most important issue facing Alabama](#)
- [Alabama Considers Potential Avenues of Broadband Expansion](#)
- [How States Use Broadband Surveys to Fight for Better Funding](#)
- [Students And Employees Go Online, Highlighting Need For Broadband Access](#)
- [Next Century Cities Case Study: Huntsville, Alabama](#)