District of Columbia residents occupy only ten square miles. The FCC evaluated 706,000 residents and found that 691,000 people (98%) had access to a fixed broadband connection at minimum broadband speeds. The agency’s data shows a 0.1% decrease in the number of connected individuals since its 2019 broadband deployment report.

In March 2011, the District government released its first broadband availability map using GIS technology and utilizing funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Notably, the map included information about broadband adoption (the rate of subscribership compared to infrastructure availability) which revealed huge disparities in connectivity.

According to Connect.DC, approximately 25% of District households do not have broadband subscriptions. In more affluent areas, over 85% of households have in-home broadband subscriptions. For the African-American and minority populations, largely in Wards 5, 7, and 8, the in-home broadband adoption rate drops to 65%.

Currently, broadband availability information is provided through the Office of the Chief Technology Officer’s Open Data DC website. The website also maps pole location data, which is an important step in decreasing installation costs.