



10% of Florida residents still do not have reliable or affordable broadband access. In many areas, low population densities and the lack of competition pose significant barriers.

The FCC evaluated connectivity among 21.4 million people in Florida and found that 20.6 million (96.3%) had access to a fixed broadband connection at minimum speeds. In rural Florida, it also found that 1.7 of 2.2 million residents (78.6%) have fixed broadband access. Of the 19 million people evaluated in urban areas, the Commission concluded that 18.9 million people (98.2%) had access to a fixed broadband connection.

In Martin County, a NCC member municipality, the Commission evaluated approximately 18,000 people and the FCC found that 100% of those evaluated had access to a fixed broadband connection at minimum speeds. Similarly, 200 miles away in Pasco County – an NCC member – approximately 526,000 people evaluated, the FCC found that 98.5% had fixed broadband access.

Polk County has a [GIS map](#) that includes broadband demand projections. Florida is part of the NTIA's National Broadband Mapping Program and over the past decade, the state's Department of Management Services has been awarded [\\$8,877,028](#) in funding for broadband capacity building including broadband mapping.

In 2011, the University of Florida's Public Utility Resource Center released its [Strategic Planning for Florida Governmental Broadband Capabilities](#), which was commissioned by the State's Department of Management Services utilizing funding available from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The

report focuses only on broadband Internet services used by public entities and institutions, rather than consumer or business uses.

Microsoft data from November 2019 showed that around [9 million people](#) in Florida do not use the Internet at broadband speeds.

Florida's GIS [broadband map](#) uses FCC data to show minimum download speeds by census block. Beginning in January 2021, the Florida Office of Broadband hosted a [series of ten workshops](#) convening industry sector and community leaders who discussed Internet accessibility. Then, in March 2021, the Division of Community Development [released the results](#) of its broadband availability and accessibility survey, which found that 86.5% of respondents were aware of broadband studies or plans in their community.

Additional Resources:

- [New Florida Law to Boost Broadband in Multi-Use Corridors](#)
- [Flagler mother works to get broadband Internet to rural areas for students learning online](#)
- [Florida Association of Counties](#)