



The State of Iowa established a challenge process in which the public can dispute inaccurate broadband data.

IOWA

POPULATION: 3.19 MILLION
COUNTIES: 99

The Commission evaluated 3.1 million Iowa residents and found that 3 million people (96%) had fixed broadband access. In rural areas, it determined that 1 of 1.1 million people (91.2%) have access to a fixed broadband connection at minimum speeds. Among urban residents, the FCC evaluated 2 million people and found that nearly all (98.7%) had fixed broadband access.

The [State of Iowa uses Form 477 data](#) as the basis for the [state broadband map](#), using data published by the FCC in September 2019. The state [opened a challenge process](#) inviting the public to dispute the data from September 4 to September 28, 2020. A final version of the map was released on October 28, 2020, then another [challenge process](#) opened, which is currently under review.

[Iowa's estimates](#) show that 1,166,701 households are served with fixed broadband of at least 25/3 Mbps across wired and wireless technologies, and that 54,875 remain unserved. Additionally, it shows that 98.1% of households are served with at least 10/1 Mbps speeds and 21,035 households remain unserved by even those services that do not constitute broadband. Finally, it shows that 85.69% of households have access to broadband at 100/10 Mbps speeds and 85.7% of households can access at least 50/5 Mbps broadband.

While broadband is available at high rates in counties like [Buena Vista \(99.2%\)](#) and [Chickasaw \(99.2%\)](#), the percentage of households with broadband access is much lower in counties like Adams (61.7%) and Ringgold (66.4%). Among different

technologies, [69.5% of households have access to cable at current broadband speeds](#), with 69.1% of households having access to cable at speeds of 100/10 Mbps; 35.8% of households with access to fiber, and 34.4% having access to fiber at speeds of at 100/10 Mbps; 35.1% of households have access to DSL at 25/3 Mbps speeds, with only 18.9% having access to DSL at speeds of 100/10 Mbps. 52.2% of households have access to fixed wireless at 25/3 Mbps speeds, while only 1.57% of households have 100/10 Mbps wireless speeds.

BroadbandNow reports that in Iowa, [81.3% of residents have terrestrial broadband access](#) while only 18.5% have access to a wired plan priced below \$60 per month. According to data collected by Microsoft in November 2019, approximately [two million people in Iowa](#) do not use the Internet at broadband speeds.

Additional Resources:

- [Broadband Blues](#)
- [FCC has money for rural broadband but isn't sure where to spend it](#)
- [Virus exposes Iowa's broadband weaknesses](#)
- [Iowa and the nation need real rural broadband solutions](#)