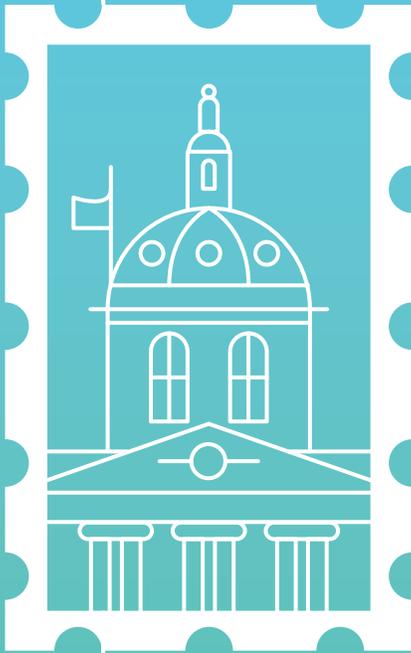


NEW HAMPSHIRE

POPULATION: 1.37 MILLION
COUNTIES: 10



Although New Hampshire is working to improve broadband availability, R Street's [2020 Broadband Scorecard Report](#) gave the state a "C" grade for the third year in a row for its laws governing broadband deployment.

New Hampshire is an adventurous state that draws to mind rolling hills, lush forests, and a scenic seacoast. Its venturesome spirit does not end at its beautiful landscape. At the start of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the State of New Hampshire [received national recognition](#) for its transition online. That shift necessitated increased funding for broadband access, leading the state to [devote \\$50 million](#) and issue [a request for proposals](#) in June 2020 for the Connecting NH Broadband Expansion Program.

Discussing the initiative, Education Commissioner Frank Edelblut [said](#)

While New Hampshire schools have gained nationwide recognition for their switch to remote learning this spring, connectivity remains a challenge, particularly for students in rural New Hampshire communities.

The FCC evaluated 1.3 million people in New Hampshire and found that 1.3 million people (96.8%) had fixed broadband access at the 25/3 Mbps benchmark. It concluded that 509,000 of 542,000 rural residents (94%) have access to a fixed broadband connection at minimum speeds. In urban New Hampshire, the agency found that 807,000 of 818,000 people (98.6%) had fixed broadband access.

In 2017 and 2018, the University of New Hampshire Survey Center [collected broadband data for businesses through a survey](#). 83% of respondents were small businesses with fewer than 50 employees, and the survey found that only about 55% of respondents said that their broadband speeds were sufficient to meet their business needs. The full

results are no longer available because the website has been [decommissioned due to lack of funding](#). In June 2020, [New Hampshire was added](#) to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's National Broadband Availability Map Program.

Additional Resources:

- [New Hampshire added to National Broadband Availability Map](#)
- [NH Delegation Applauds National Broadband Availability Map Program's Expansion to Include New Hampshire](#)