



Office of Broadband Development: Broadband in Minnesota

House Industrial Education and Economic Development Committee
January 20, 2021

Angie Dickison & Diane Wells

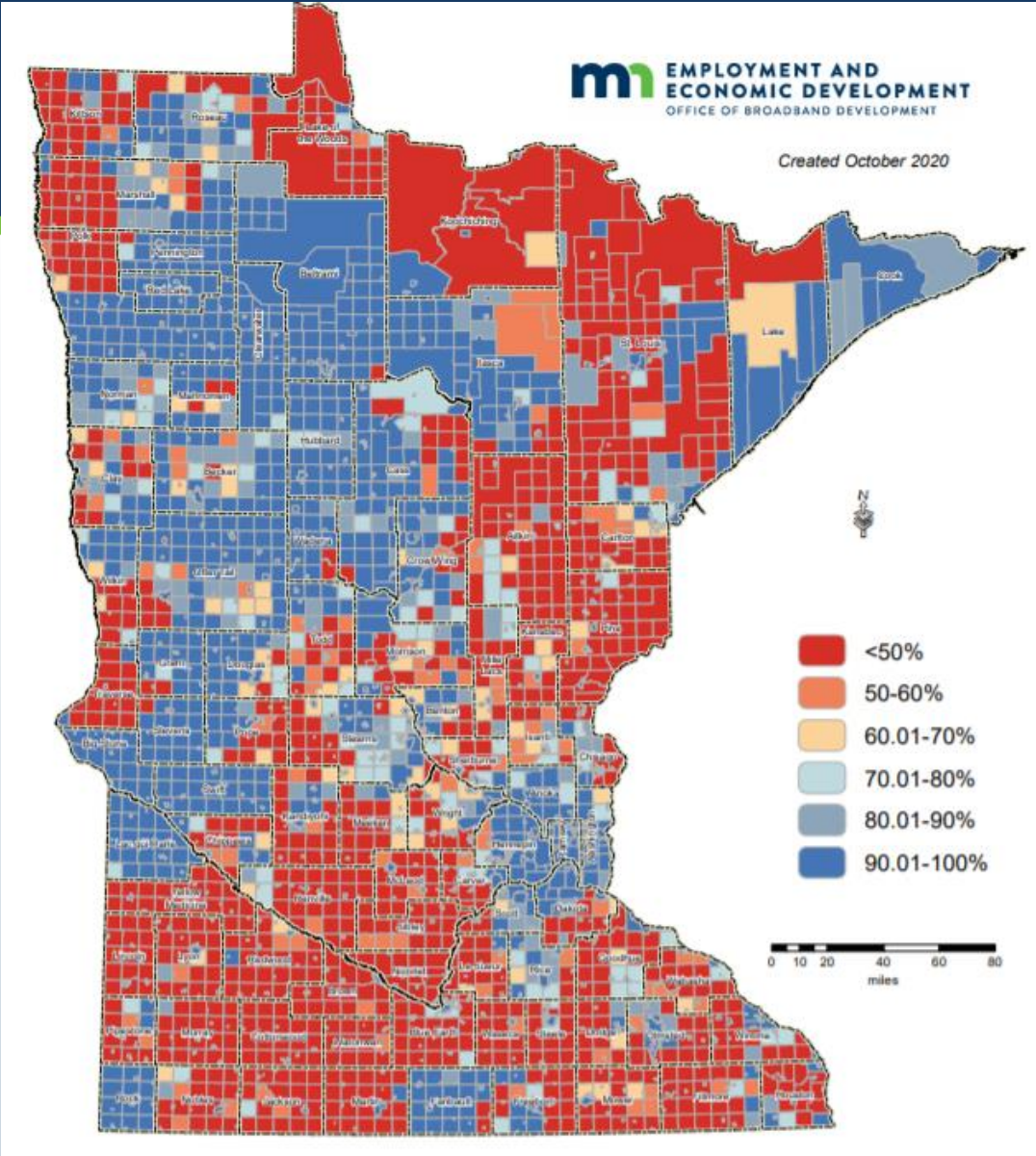
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MN Office of Broadband Development

Department of Employment and Economic Development

Broadband Availability at MN 2022 Speed Goal (25/3)

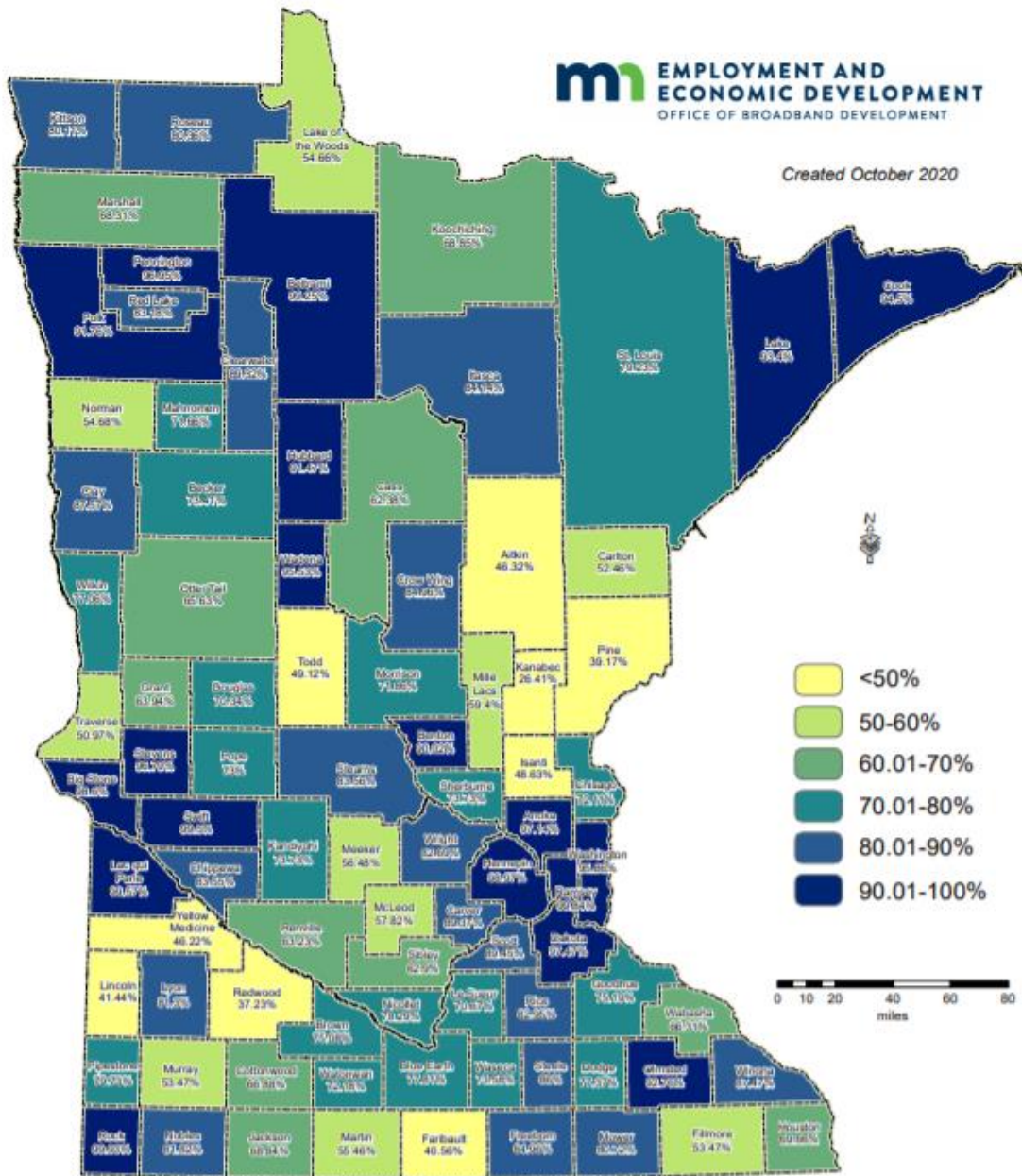


2020	
Statewide 25/3 % of HH:	92.47% covered
# of HH without:	157,000 HH w/o
Non-metro 25/3 % of HH:	83.10% covered
# of HH without:	152,000 HH w/o

Percentage of Households Served by Wireline Broadband Service by City/Township At Least 25 Mbps Download/3 Mbps Upload Speeds
 Statewide Availability: 92.47%, Rural: 83.10%

Broadband Availability at MN 2026 Speed Goal (100/20)

Created October 2020



2020	
Statewide 100/20 % of HH:	87.75% covered
# of HH without:	256,000 HH w/o
Non-metro 100/20 % of HH:	72.53% covered
# of HH without:	246,000 HH w/o

2020 Broadband Availability in the State of Minnesota

Percentage of Households Served by Wireline Broadband Service by County
At Least 100 Mbps Download/20 Mbps Upload Speeds
Statewide Availability: 87.75%, Rural: 72.53%

Broadband and COVID-19

Spotty internet access is leaving many rural Minnesotans behind

As Minnesotans work and study from home amid the pandemic, access to high-speed internet has become more important than ever.

By Pam Louwagie Star Tribune | APRIL 11, 2020 — 11:39AM

Minnesota Youth Council COVID-19 Issues: Distance Learning and the Lack of Broadband in Minnesota

April 24, 2020

Thousands of Minnesota students still don't have internet for distance learning

By Rilyn Eischens - August 17, 2020

With Distanced Learning Still A Possibility For Fall, Much Of Minnesota Still Lacks High-Speed Internet

By Liz Collin July 27, 2020 at 6:00 pm Filed Under: Back To School, Distance Learning, Education, Liz Collin, Schools

COVID-19 shines light on 'digital divide' across the US

From rural areas where broadband doesn't exist to poor areas where it's unaffordable, millions go without internet access just when they need it most.

Marguerite Reardon 17 March 18, 2020 5:00 a.m. PT

COVID-19 AND ITS IMPACT ON RURAL BROADBAND, HEALTHCARE

July 15, 2020 By Amie Simpson Filed Under: 2020 Events, Broadband, COVID-19, News, Technology

COVID-19 may not be forever, but telehealth is here to stay

By FREDERICK MELO | fmelo@pioneerpress.com | Pioneer Press

PUBLISHED: December 31, 2020 at 11:12 p.m. | UPDATED: January 3, 2021 at

With COVID-19, desire for fast internet connections accelerates

Martin Moylan March 26, 2020 10:59 p.m.

Virus exposes Minnesota's broadband gap

Jerry Burnes Mar 19, 2020 0

What internet providers are doing to keep Minnesotans online during the pandemic

Internet providers in Minnesota have signed on to the Keep Americans Connected Pledge, which says that the companies won't terminate internet service to residential or small business customers for reasons connected to the coronavirus crisis.

By Peter Callaghan | MinnPost Staff Writer

Lack of broadband access adds to challenges for school districts in Greater Minnesota

From adding Wi-Fi hotspots to offering grab-and-go flash drives, rural districts are creating ways to help students get schoolwork done remotely.

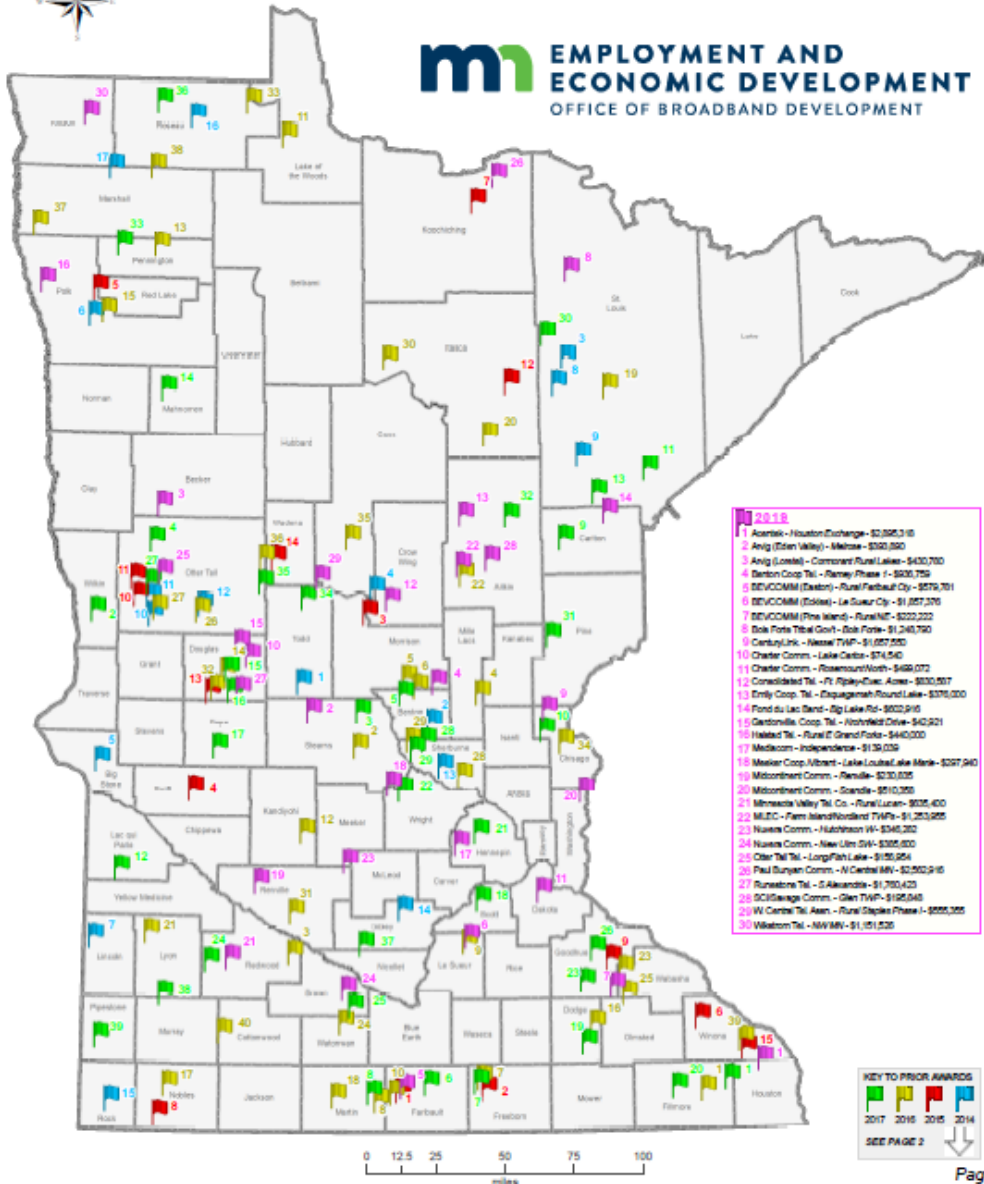
By Erin Hinrichs | MinnPost Staff Writer

Minnesota Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant Program

2014-2017, 2019 Project Awards



mn EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT



MN Border to Border Broadband Infrastructure Grants

	All 5 Years
Funding	\$105.6M
Applications Received	296
Awards:	
Awards Made	140
Households Served	43,250
Businesses Served	6,669
Institutions Served	360
Projects:	
Matching Investments	\$146.5M
Completed	109

Governor's Task Force on Broadband

- Created by Gov. Walz Executive Order 19-10
- Chaired by Teddy Bekele, SVP/CTO Land O'Lakes
- 15 Members representing various sectors (Ag, Consumers, Econ. Dev., Education, Healthcare, Labor, Local Govt., Providers, Rural Dev., Tribal)
- Meet monthly
- Make policy recommendations to the Governor and Legislature

Broadband – Work Remains

- The Digital Divide is availability and affordability
- Today's availability:

Broadband Speed	# HH Statewide W/O Service	# HH Rural W/O Service
25/3 (2022 Goal and FCC Def.)	157,000	152,000
100/20 (2026 Goal)	256,000	246,000

- Pandemic has made clear 25/3 speeds are not adequate with multiple users online at the same time
- Necessity of broadband recognized—but how to solve availability and affordability?

