

Annual Minnesota Broadband Profiles | Dakota County

Rank: 7 (out of 87) for broadband access at speeds of 100/20 megabits per second (Mbps)

Background

Every year since 2017 Blandin Foundation has contracted with Ann Treacy of Treacy Information Services to synthesize data from the Minnesota Office of Broadband Development and broadband news from communities across the state to gauge progress toward the state broadband goals (2022: 25 Mbps down and 3 Mbps up and 2026: 100 Mbps down and 20 Mbps up).

Leaders can use this information to plan and act to improve broadband access and use in their communities.

Dakota County: data and community action

Dakota is poised to meet the broadband speed goals for both 2022 and 2026. They saw a great increase in access to speeds of 100/20 Mbps since the last mapping.

Percentage of Served Population by Speed and Date			
Dakota	2019	2018	2017
100/20 (2026 goal)	97.56	64.89	64.18
25/3 (2022 goal)	98.46	97.54	98.47

Dakota County has been working for years building a [public network¹](#) that connected government builds with a plan to opening up the network to third party providers. Over the years they have been generous in [sharing administration forms and plans²](#) to help other communities looking to build better broadband.

They also benefit from being a metro county with higher population density, which makes it easier for a broadband provider to make a business case to offer faster services.

Dakota County could benefit from future grants. In 2019, Charter applied to upgrade service in Dakota. (That doesn't mean they will get the grant; they have only applied.)

Checklist:

- 100/20 ranking: 7 (up 33 places)
- 25/3 ranking: 11
- Has worked with Blandin: no
- Has received a MN Broadband grant: no
- Household density: 258.9
- Number of providers: 16

¹ <https://blandinonbroadband.org/2017/02/16/dakota-county-strong-coverage-with-leadership-from-the-county/>

² <https://blandinonbroadband.org/2018/01/22/dakota-county-broadband-joint-powers-agreement/>



Details:

- Find more articles on broadband in Dakota County. (<http://tinyurl.com/hxslue9>)
- Districts: CD 2 / 51, 52, 54, 56, 57 & 58
- [Find your reps³](#)

Analysis: Code Green

- Red (action needed)
- Yellow (warning – ramp up efforts)
- Green (good shape)

³ <https://www.gis.leg.mn/iMaps/districts/>

