

## 2019 Annual Minnesota Broadband Profiles | Hennepin County

Rank: 4 (out of 87) for broadband access to 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.

### Hennepin County: data and community action

Hennepin County is poised to make both the 2022 and 2026 state broadband speed goals.

Percentage of Served Population by Speed and Date			
Hennepin	2019	2018	2017
<b>100/20 (2026 goal)</b>	<b>98.94</b>	<b>98.97</b>	<b>98.57</b>
<b>25/3 (2022 goal)</b>	<b>99.39</b>	<b>99.18</b>	<b>99.16</b>

Hennepin County has the distinct advantage of high population density, which makes for an easier business case to serve than some of the more rural counties. In 2018, Hennepin County was home to the Superbowl and subsequently received a tech facelift for the [US Bank Stadium](#)<sup>1</sup> and increased [5G access](#)<sup>2</sup> for much of the Twin Cities.

Hennepin County has benefited from one Minnesota state grant:

- 2017 - Mediacom Minnesota LLC - Medina 2018 Broadband Build – GRANT \$62,219**  
 Serving 22 underserved households and 12 underserved businesses with service exceeding the 2022 state speed goal of 25 Mbps down and 3 Mbps up.

While Hennepin County does enjoy great access, like all Minnesota counties, they do struggle with affordability for all users. Some providers approach that with [subsidized access](#)<sup>3</sup> and some simply [charge lower prices](#)<sup>4</sup>.

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

<sup>1</sup> <https://blandinonbroadband.org/2017/04/05/us-bank-upgrading-broadband-for-the-superbowl/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://blandinonbroadband.org/2018/02/09/mn-broadband-task-force-meeting-notes-superbowl-technology-and-talk-about-lowering-definition-of-broadband/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://blandinonbroadband.org/2016/03/12/low-cost-broadband-option-in-the-twin-cities-via-pcs-for-people/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://blandinonbroadband.org/2016/05/17/lifeline-is-a-good-step-but-lets-keep-going/>



Checklist:

- 100/20 ranking: 4 (down from 3)
- 25/3 ranking: 8
- Has worked with Blandin: no
- Has received a MN Broadband grant: yes
- Household density: 784.3
- Number of providers: 17

Details:

- Find more articles on broadband in Hennepin County. (<http://tinyurl.com/z9n7ea6>)
- Districts: CD 4, 5 & 6  
Senate: 29, 30, 33, 34, 36, 40, 41, 44, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63  
House: 29A, 30B, 33A, 33B, 34A, 34B, 36A, 36B, 40A, 40B, 41B, 44A, 44B, 45A, 45B, 46A, 46B, 48A, 48B, 49A, 49B, 50A, 50B, 59A, 59B, 60A, 60B, 61A, 61B, 62A, 62B, 63A, 63B
- [Find your reps<sup>5</sup>](#)

**Analysis: Code Green**

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

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.gis.leg.mn/iMaps/districts/>