

2019 Annual Minnesota Broadband Profiles | Norman County

Rank: 85 (out of 87) for broadband speeds 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.

Norman County: data and community action

Norman County is likely to meet the state speed goals for 2022 but not for 2026. They are in a precarious position because they are well situated for access to 25/3 Mbps and have dismal access to 100/20 Mbps. In order to not be left behind by 2026, they'll have to work hard against a false sense of accomplishment.

Percentage of Served Population by Speed and Date			
Norman	2019	2018	2017
100/20 (2026 goal)	20.62	20.55	20.52
25/3 (2022 goal)	98.45	98.02	37.67

In 2017, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) included Norman County as [one of the few non-competitive counties in Minnesota¹](#) for broadband access; which means half the locations with demand for the services don't have a competitive provider located within at least half a mile, or 75 percent of the census blocks don't have the presence of a cable provider.

Norman County does not have many wired providers, but they do have a few that offer 2026 speeds (Garden Valley Telephone Company and Halstad Telephone Company). They will need to work to get these providers to expand service or work with others to upgrade their service to meet the needs of the county.

Checklist:

- 100/20 ranking: 85 (down from 80)
- 25/3 ranking: 12
- Has worked with Blandin: no
- Has received a MN Broadband grant: no
- Household density: 3.3

¹ <https://blandinonbroadband.org/2017/05/16/are-business-data-services-deemed-competitive-in-your-county-the-fcc-has-a-list-to-let-you-know/>



- Number of providers: 4

Details:

- Find more articles on broadband in Norman County (<http://tinyurl.com/zs7nuqi>)
- Districts: CD 7
Senate: 04
House: 04B
- [Find your reps²](#)

Analysis: Code Red

- Red (yikes)
- Yellow (warning)
- Green (good shape)

² <https://www.gis.leg.mn/iMaps/districts/>

