# **2019 Annual Minnesota Broadband Profiles | Pipestone County**

Rank: 35 (out of 87) for broadband 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.

#### Pipestone County: data and community action

Pipestone County could meet the broadband speed goals for both 2022 and 2026 with a concerted effort. The numbers aren't too far from reality; the impact of Vast Broadband may make a big difference. If that impact isn't great, they will need to work on building partnerships with other providers.

Percentage of Served Population by Speed and Date			
	2019	2018	2017
100/20 (2026 goal)	79.73	79.73	44.54
25/3 (2022 goal)	81.10	79.73	79.73

Pipestone County has benefited from two grants:

- 2017 Woodstock Telephone Company Pipestone County Wireless GRANT \$363,851 Serving 135 unserved households, 540 unserved businesses, and 1 unserved community anchor institution in rural Pipestone with service levels to a minimum of 25Mbps download and 3Mbps upload with higher speeds of 75Mbps/25Mbps.
- 2015 MVTV Wireless Middle Mile -- Grant award: \$808,080
  This project is a Middle Mile broadband infrastructure buildout to upgrade backhaul capacity between site locations within 20 southwestern Minnesota counties: Blue Earth, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac Qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Meeker, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Pipestone, Rock, Redwood, Renville, Sibley Swift, Watonwan, and Yellow Medicine.

In April (2019), <u>Vast Broadband launched Gigabit</u> access in Marshall, Pipestone and Worthington Counties. In September 2019, <u>Woodstock Telephone's grant-funded network</u> was completed. It will be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://blandinonbroadband.org/2019/09/17/pipestone-county-broadband-expansion-is-completed/



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://blandinonbroadband.org/2019/04/11/vast-broadband-brings-gig-access-to-marshall-pipestone-and-worthington-mn-and-parts-of-south-dakota/

interesting to see the impact these projects will have on county's pursuit of Minnesota's 2026 speed goals.

## Checklist:

• 100/20 ranking: 35 (down from 22)

• 25/3 ranking: 54

• Has worked with Blandin: no

• Has received a MN Broadband grant: yes

Household density: 8.7Number of providers: 6

#### Details:

• Find more articles on broadband in Pipestone County (<a href="http://tinyurl.com/zhjm4pe">http://tinyurl.com/zhjm4pe</a>)

Districts: CD 7
 Senate: 22
 House: 22A
 Find your reps³

## **Analysis: Code Yellow**

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



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.gis.leg.mn/iMaps/districts/