

2019 Annual Minnesota Broadband Profiles | Scott County

Rank: 18 (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.

Scott County: data and community action

Scott County is in a position where they could make the Minnesota broadband goals for both 2022 and 2026 with concerted effort.

Percentage of Served Population by Speed and Date			
	2019	2018	2017
100/20 (2026 goal)	89.15	88.61	88.38
25/3 (2022 goal)	96.43	94.50	93.77

Scott County started in 2007 with a [94-mile fiber-optic ring¹](#). At the time it was the largest government-owned high-speed network in the state, and one of the largest in the nation. [In 2014²](#), county officials detailed the advantages of the network...

We (Scott County) saw disparity between cost and access. A T1 in SE Scott was about \$5500/years; in NE Scott it was \$900/year. This project means we now buy it for about \$30/year. Scott County Government now pays \$35,000/year less for better broadband

now. Scott County has benefited from one state broadband grant:

- **2017 - Jaguar Communications - Sand Creek Township Area Broadband Project – GRANT \$192,405**

Serving 118 unserved households, 18 unserved businesses, and 3 community anchor institutions in the Sand Creek Township area of Scott County by constructing fiber to the premises.

Scott is a fairly metro county; the market will probably take care of much of the county, but parts of it will take an effort.

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

¹ <https://blandinonbroadband.org/2007/08/17/scott-county-builds-out-fiber/>

² <https://blandinonbroadband.org/2017/02/26/scott-county-broadband-profile-96-percent-access-to-253-supported-by-county-built-10gig-backbone/>



Checklist:

- 100/20 ranking: 18 (down from 14)
- 25/3 ranking: 17
- Has worked with Blandin: no
- Has received a MN Broadband grant: no
- Household density: 122.4
- Number of providers: 10

Details:

- Find more articles on broadband in Scott County (<http://tinyurl.com/gt4afcy>)
- Districts: CD 2
Senate: 20, 55, 56
House: 20A, 55A, 55B, 56A
- [Find your reps³](#)

Analysis: Code Yellow

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

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