

## 2019 Annual Minnesota Broadband Profiles | Sherburne County

Rank: 49 (out of 87) for broadband at 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.

### Sherburne County: data and community action

Sherburne County is not poised to meet the Minnesota broadband goals for either 2022 or 2026. Their numbers are actually pretty good, but they have seen only incremental improvements in the last few years. They need a renewed, concerted effort to improve if they want to meet the state broadband goals.

| Percentage of Served Population by Speed and Date |              |              |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | 2019         | 2018         | 2017         |
| <b>100/20 (2026 goal)</b>                         | <b>72.36</b> | <b>67.11</b> | <b>28.02</b> |
| <b>25/3 (2022 goal)</b>                           | <b>91.63</b> | <b>89.23</b> | <b>84.55</b> |

Sherburne County has benefited a few state grants:

- 2017 - Palmer Wireless - Sherburne County Road 3 – GRANT \$110,661**  
Serving serve 20 unserved households and 10 unserved businesses, and one underserved community institution in Sherburne County with speeds of 1 Gbps download and 500 Mbps upload.
- 2016 - PALMER WIRELESS BIG LAKE INDUSTRIAL PARK - GRANT: \$ 90,988**  
Serving 17 underserved businesses and 1 underserved community anchor institution in the Big Lake, MN, industrial park on the east edge of town, adjacent to US Hwy 10with service of 100 Mbps by 20 Mbps. The project will bring fiber-to-the-premise technology to the businesses, seeking to replicate the success of the 2014 Border-to-Border broadband grant project with the Becker Industrial Park, to make a positive impact on the economic health of Big Lake and the businesses in the park. Total eligible project cost is \$211,600. Local match is \$120,612.
- 2016 - PALMER WIRELESS DEL TONE ROAD AND ST. CLOUD AIRPORT - GRANT: \$ 179,400**  
Serving 14 unserved businesses and 1 unserved community anchor institution on the east side of St. Cloud, MN with services to 1 Gigabit.
- 2014 - Palmer Wireless, Becker Industrial Park**  
Award: \$151,934. Total project cost: \$303,870. Impact: service to 21 underserved businesses in the Becker Industrial Park and 12 vacant city-owned lots covering 70 acres.



[Sherburne County](#)<sup>1</sup> was a 2015-2016 Blandin Broadband Community. They also worked with Blandin on trying to improve their connectivity. Their connectivity is not bad, but it hasn't improved much in the last few years.

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

Checklist:

- 100/20 ranking: 49 (down from 36)
- 25/3 ranking: 30
- Has worked with Blandin: yes
- Has received a MN Broadband grant: yes
- Household density: 67
- Number of providers: 12

Details:

- Find more articles on broadband in Sherburne County (<http://tinyurl.com/zrgvpld>)
- Districts: CD 6  
Senate: 14, 15, 30, 31  
House: 14B, 15A, 15B, 30A, 31A
- [Has worked with the Blandin Foundation](#)<sup>2</sup>
- [Find your reps](#)<sup>3</sup>

**Analysis: Code Red**

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

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<sup>1</sup> <https://blandinonbroadband.org/2016/10/04/blandin-broadband-community-update-sherburne-county-focus-on-infrastructure/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://blandinonbroadband.org/2016/10/04/blandin-broadband-community-update-sherburne-county-focus-on-infrastructure/>

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

