

2019 Annual Minnesota Broadband Profiles | Swift County

Rank: 3 (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.

Swift County: data and community action

Swift County has gone from 30 percent access to 100/20 Mbps in 2017 to 99 percent in 2019. They are poised to meet the speed goals for both 2022 and 2026.

Percentage of Served Population by Speed and Date			
	2019	2018	2017
100/20 (2026 goal)	99.60	64.15	30.41
25/3 (2022 goal)	99.64	99.64	78.95

Swift County has benefited from two state broadband grants:

- **2015 - Federated Telephone Cooperative - Swift County FTTP 2015 -- Grant award: \$4,950,000**
Serving 600 households, 425 businesses, and 75 community institutions in Swift County with Gig access.
- **2015 - MVTW 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.

Swift County's partnership with Federated Telephone has provided nearly ubiquitous coverage. Along with access, Swift County has been working on creating a culture of use by participating in the current [Blandin Broadband Community \(BBC\)](#)¹ cohort.

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

¹ <https://blandinonbroadband.org/2019/06/20/strut-your-stuff-tour-in-swift-county-hybrid-welding-classes-4h-app-stem-for-kids-and-more/>

Checklist:

- 100/20 ranking: 3 (up from 41)
- 25/3 ranking: 5
- Has worked with Blandin: yes
- Has received a MN Broadband grant: yes
- Household density: 5.6
- Number of providers: 10

Details:

- Find more articles on broadband in Swift County (<http://tinyurl.com/zfptnnz>)
- Districts: CD 7
Senate: 17
House: 17A
- [Find your reps²](#)

Analysis: Code Green

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

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

