

2019 Annual Minnesota Broadband Profiles | Wright County

Rank: 33 (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.

Wright County: data and community action

Wright County is not poised to meet the Minnesota broadband goals for either 2022 or 2026. They need to renew interest in broadband to meet those goals.

Percentage of Served Population by Speed and Date			
Wright	2019	2018	2017
100/20 (2026 goal)	81.02	80.61	29.26
25/3 (2022 goal)	91.07	87.89	81.17

Wright County has benefited from a broadband grant:

- **2017 - Midco (Midcontinent Communications) - Annandale East – GRANT \$537,050**
Serving 40 unserved households, and 531 underserved households and 7 underserved businesses, in the area northeast of Annandale near Bass Lake and Clearwater Lake in Wright County with service levels to up to 1 Gbps.

Wright County is home to Monticello, which operates a [municipal broadband network](#)¹. Monticello built their own fiber network – but in process the incumbent also built a fiber network and even sued the city. It looks like Monticello is continuing to bring in competition and looking at the numbers the providers are reaching outside the city limits.

To reach the Minnesota broadband speed goals, Wright County will need to build a momentum, work with providers to expand and upgrade service.

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

¹ <https://blandinonbroadband.org/?s=monticello&submit=Search>



Checklist:

- 100/20 ranking: 33 (down from 21)
- 25/3 ranking: 33
- Has worked with Blandin: yes
- Has received a MN Broadband grant: yes
- Household density: 62.2
- Number of providers: 13

Details:

- There is a matrix of [Minnesota broadband adoption projects](#).
- Districts: CD 6
Senate: 15, 18, 29, 30
House: 15B, 18A, 29A, 29B, 30A, 30B
- [Find your reps²](#)

Analysis: Code Red

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

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