Connect Minnesota
Broadband Mapping Initiative

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Why We Exist...

Connected Nation is a national non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that facilitates market-based strategies for
1) expanding broadband availability and
2) increasing broadband adoption rates
across the United States through public-private partnerships.

We believe that states, communities, families and individuals can realize great economic and social advantages when we accelerate broadband availability in unserved areas and increase broadband use in all areas, rural and urban, alike.
The Five Key Components of the Connected Nation Model

1. Street-Level Broadband Infrastructure Mapping
2. Market Intelligence through Survey Research
3. Services to Providers and Local Governments
4. Demand Creation and Planning at the Grassroots Level
5. Computers for Underprivileged Households
Connected Nation’s State Initiatives

- "Connect" States
- Mapping Underway
- Local Planning
- Team Consulting
- Awaiting RFP
- Decision
The Connect Minnesota Broadband Mapping Initiative: Background

- An omnibus bill containing language to create a statewide broadband inventory mapping project was included in SF 3337, which passed the legislature on May 7, 2008 and was signed into law by Gov. Tim Pawlenty on May 12, 2008. The Minnesota Department of Commerce was charged with issuing a Request for Proposals from qualifying vendors.
- Connect Minnesota, a non-profit 501(c)3 subsidiary of Connected Nation, submitted a bid and was subsequently selected by the Minnesota Department of Commerce to develop the map for the state.
- Connected Nation brings years of experience to the Connect Minnesota program having worked with broadband providers to map broadband availability in a manner that accurately represents coverage. Maps have been produced for KY, TN, OH, WV, and SC to date, with maps for NC and CO presently under development.
Key Points

• Provider participation was and remains voluntary
• 98 providers are represented on the map to date
• The maps are currently in a “preliminary” state and new information is being added daily
• The Minnesota Department of Commerce asked us to release a preliminary set of maps by February 1, 2009 with a final set of maps to be completed by June 30, 2009.
• During the next 4 ½ months, Connect Minnesota will be:
  – Continuing the process of field personnel validating data
  – Seeking input from the public, provider community, and state leaders to identify any inaccuracies and suggest revisions… and we are already receiving this feedback.
  – Gathering data from providers that aren’t currently represented on the map
Key Findings

- We have received data from cable companies, municipalities, WISPs, rural cooperatives, ILECs, and CLECs that operate DSL, cable, fixed wireless, mobile wireless, and fiber service platforms.
- Approximately 92% of Minnesota Households have access to broadband.
- The remaining 8% comprises approximately 151,000 households, or about 418,000 people, that do not have access.
- We expect household availability to increase by about 2% as other providers are added to the map, but consumer validation of map could also negatively impact the level of household availability slightly.
MN Broadband Service Inventory

Updated February 1, 2009
MN Broadband Service Inventory (by platform)

Symbology
In areas where multiple broadband providers offer service, this platform composite map stacks coverage display layers in the order presented below.
- Fiber Broadband Service Available
- Cable Broadband Service Available
- DSL Broadband Service Available
- Wireless Broadband Service Available
- Mobile Wireless Broadband Available
- Unserved Areas
- City
- Interstate
- US Road
- County Boundary
- Water
- National and State Lands

Updated February 1, 2009
Interactive Map
Available at http://www.connectmn.org/
The average download speed statewide is higher than we’ve seen in any other state, at approximately 6.5 Mbps.

The average upload speed statewide is approximately 1.5 Mbps.

Speed data was obtained from Ookla Net Metrics’ testing servers in the Twin Cities, Grand Forks, ND, and Sioux Falls, SD. Users performed these tests on sites such as www.speedtest.net.

The sample size is comprised of approximately 200,000 tests performed since November 2008.
Connect Minnesota’s own speed testing tool, located at www.connectmn.org has performed approximately 2,000 tests to date, but that data has been excluded from our speed maps.

Concerns were raised about the testing server’s physical location and its limited throughput capacity.

Minnesota has the fortunate of having several broadband providers that far exceed the national average in terms of download speeds.

Therefore, within the last week, we have relocated our testing server to Chicago and added the ability to measure a symmetrical 100 Mbps connection.
Average Residential Download Speed

Symbology
- 1st Generation Data (200 kbps to 768 kbps)
- Basic Broadband Tier 1 (768 kbps to 1.5 Mbps)
- Broadband Tier 2 (1.5 Mbps to 3 Mbps)
- Broadband Tier 3 (3 Mbps to 6 Mbps)
- Broadband Tier 4 (6 Mbps to 10 Mbps)
- Broadband Tier 5 (10 Mbps to 25 Mbps)
- Broadband Tier 6 (25 Mbps to 100 Mbps)*
- Broadband Tier 7 (Greater than 100 Mbps)*

Updated February 1, 2009
Average Residential Upload Speed

Symbology

- 1st Generation Data (200 kbps to 768 kbps)
- Basic Broadband Tier 1 (768 kbps to 1.5 Mbps)
- Broadband Tier 2 (1.5 Mbps to 3 Mbps)
- Broadband Tier 3 (3 Mbps to 6 Mbps)
- Broadband Tier 4 (6 Mbps to 10 Mbps)*
- Broadband Tier 5 (10 Mbps to 25 Mbps)*
- Broadband Tier 6 (25 Mbps to 100 Mbps)*
- Broadband Tier 7 (Greater than 100 Mbps)*

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