

# FCC National Broadband Map and Broadband Funding Map

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September 18, 2023

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# Introduction to the FCC

The FCC is an *independent* U.S. government agency established by Congress with the Communications Act of 1934.

Independent of the Executive Branch (directly responsible to Congress, not the President).

Clearly separated from regulated entities (the United States does not have any government-owned telecommunications companies).

The FCC is a *converged regulator* (telecommunications and broadcasting) → regulates television, radio, wireline, fixed and mobile wireless, satellite, and cable services in all 50 states plus U.S. territories.

Mission: “To ensure that all Americans, without discrimination, have available a rapid, efficient, nationwide and worldwide wire and radio communication service with adequate facilities at reasonable charges.”

The FCC is both the policy maker and the regulator.



# Leadership

- Directed by five Commissioners → appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate for staggered five-year terms.
- The President selects one of the Commissioners to serve as Chair.
- Maximum of three Commissioners from the President's political party at any given time.
- Operates under the "Government in the Sunshine Act."

# FCC Strategic Goals 2022 - 2026

- Pursue a "100 Percent" Broadband Strategy
- Promote Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility
- Empower Consumers
- Enhance Public Safety and National Security
- Advance U.S. Global Competitiveness
- Foster Operational Excellence





Federal Communications Commission

# FCC National Broadband Map

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Location Providers Area Download

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BroadbandMap.gov

## Broadband Data Collection (BDC): New Approach to Mapping Broadband Availability

- The FCC historically collected broadband deployment data at the census-block level. Large geographic scale meant a generalized view of deployment.
- More reliable and consistent broadband availability data are critical to efforts to target public funds to connect unserved and underserved communities.
- Congress directed the FCC to develop processes and procedures to collect, verify, and publish more granular data in the Broadband Deployment Accuracy and Technological Availability (DATA) Act.
- The first draft of the new Map was published in November, 2022.

# New Approach to Mapping Broadband Availability

- Fixed broadband: shift from Census Blocks to individual locations, using a newly created locations database (the "Fabric")
- Mobile broadband: standardized parameters, propagation model and link budget info
- Challenge processes, crowdsource data, verifications, audits
- Iterative process – data updated, corrected on a continuing basis
- Provides a better tool for targeting future infrastructure investment

# WHAT'S ON THE NATIONAL BROADBAND MAP?

The National Broadband Map consists of 2 datasets, both of which can be challenged:

## FABRIC LOCATIONS

- **What is it?**
  - The Fabric is a dataset of all locations in the United States and Territories where fixed broadband internet access service is or could be installed.
- **Who creates it?**
  - The Fabric is developed by CostQuest in consultation with the FCC and in accordance with FCC rules.
- **Challenges and updates timeline?**
  - The Fabric is updated twice per year.
  - For the best opportunity for challenges to be included in version 4 of the Fabric, challenges should be submitted by September 8, 2023.
- **What's on the current map?**
  - Version 2 of the Fabric is the base of the current map. Version 3 of the Fabric is available to license holders to submit challenges, and for ISPs to submit their updated availability data.

## BROADBAND AVAILABILITY

- **What is it?**
  - Broadband availability data shows what broadband services, if any, are available at locations included in the Fabric, as reported by internet service providers every 6 months.
- **Who creates it?**
  - Internet service providers report their availability data to the FCC every 6 months.
- **Challenges and updates timeline?**
  - Broadband availability data is updated consistently over time as challenges are resolved.
  - Challenges are accepted and resolved on a rolling and ongoing basis.
- **What's on the current map?**
  - The map shows availability data as-of December 31, 2022 and reflects resolved availability challenges. The map will be updated regularly as additional challenges are resolved.





# Broadband Data Collection: Challenge Processes

Two distinct categories of data populate the new broadband maps, both of which are subject to challenge in the BDC system:

- Fabric Data (fixed locations)
- Availability Data (fixed and mobile)

Each category of data may be challenged individually or on a “bulk” basis.

# National Broadband Map: Location Challenges

Location points are part of a dataset called the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric.

## What can be challenged?

- Wrong address
- Wrong unit count
- Wrong placement on the map
- Misidentified as non-Broadband-Serviceable
- Missing location

The screenshot displays the FCC National Broadband Map interface. The main map shows a grid of streets in Washington, DC, with a blue pin marking the location at 61 PIERCE ST NE WASHINGTON, DC 20002. The interface includes a navigation menu at the top with options like Home, Location Summary, Provider Detail, Area Summary, Data Download, and About. On the right side, there is a sidebar with tabs for Fixed Broadband and Mobile Broadband. The 'Selected Location' section shows the address and status (Served). Below that, the 'Broadband' section lists details like Type (Residential), Technology (Any Technology), Speed (25/3 Mbps or greater), and Data As Of (Jun 30, 2022). A table lists providers and their services, including Comcast Corporation, Hughes Network Systems, LLC, Radiate Holdings, LP, Starry, Inc., and T-Mobile USA, Inc. A 'Map Legend' at the bottom right indicates that green dots represent coverage available, red dots represent coverage not available, and grey dots represent not a mass market location. A red circle highlights the 'Location Challenge' button in the top right corner of the sidebar.

Provider	Technology	Down (Mbps)	Up (Mbps)	Chall.
Comcast Corporation	Cable	1200	35	
Hughes Network Systems, LLC	GSO Satellite	25	3	
Radiate Holdings, LP	Cable	1000	20	
Radiate Holdings, LP	Fiber to the Premises	1000	20	
Starry, Inc.	Licensed Fixed Wireless	200	100	
T-Mobile USA, Inc.	Licensed Fixed	100	20	

# National Broadband Map: Availability Challenges

Fixed broadband service is “available” at a location if the:

- provider has, or previously had, a connection in service to the location.
- provider could initiate service through a routine installation within 10 business days of a request with no extraordinary charges or delays attributable to the extension of the provider's network.

The screenshot displays the FCC National Broadband Map interface. The map shows a grid of streets in Washington, DC, with a blue pin marking the location at 61 PIERCE ST NE WASHINGTON, DC 20002. The interface includes a navigation menu at the top, a search bar, and a sidebar with details for the selected location. The sidebar shows the location is 'Served' and provides information about broadband providers and their services. A red circle highlights the 'Availability Challenge' link in the sidebar.

**Selected Location**  
61 PIERCE ST NE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20002  
Status: **Served** Residential | Unit Count: 397

**Broadband**  
Type: Residential  
Technology: Any Technology  
Speed: 25/3 Mbps or greater  
Data As Of: Jun 30, 2022 (Last Updated: 10/15/22)

**Residential | Business** Availability Challenge

Provider	Technology	Down (Mbps)	Up (Mbps)	Chall.
Comcast Corporation	Cable	1200	35	
Hughes Network Systems, LLC	GSO Satellite	25	3	
Radiate Holdings, LP	Cable	1000	20	
Radiate Holdings, LP	Fiber to the Premises	1000	20	
Starry, Inc.	Licensed Fixed Wireless	200	100	
T-Mobile USA, Inc.	Licensed Fixed	100	20	

**Map Legend**  
● Coverage available  
● Coverage not available  
○ Not a mass market location

## National Broadband Map: Mobile Availability Challenges

- Challengers may dispute the availability of mobile broadband service using on-the-ground speed test data.
- Speed test data may be submitted using the FCC's Speed Test app (or another third-party speed test app approved by the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology).
- Alternatively, bulk availability challengers may submit speed test data collected using their own hardware and software provided it meets FCC's requirements.



# Federal Broadband Funding Map

- The 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act tasked FCC with creating a map to be “the centralized, authoritative source of information on **funding** made available by the **Federal Government** for **broadband infrastructure deployment** in the United States.”
- Federal agencies that fund broadband deployment must regularly provide relevant information to the FCC for inclusion in the Funding Map.
- The FCC published the first version of the Broadband Funding Map on May 15, 2023 and must update it at least twice a year.
- The Funding Map is interactive/searchable and currently includes data from the largest federal programs, with others to be added going forward.
- **Broadband Funding Map: <https://fundingmap.fcc.gov>**

# Broadband Data Collection: Resources

For More Information:  
[www.fcc.gov/BroadbandData](http://www.fcc.gov/BroadbandData)