

DET FACT SHEET: ENTERPRISE BROADBAND



WHAT IS BROADBAND?

The term broadband is used to describe a type of high-speed data transmission in which a single medium such as a wire, fiber or airwave can carry several data channels at once. Broadband allows more data to be transmitted per second and **Enterprise Broadband** is an initiative to establish larger and faster broadband technologies for voice, data, and video traffic to the state and local governments, schools, libraries, and other authorized users across Wisconsin.

TOP REASON WHY BROADBAND IS SO IMPORTANT.

The communication landscape is changing and technology is playing a crucial role in the change. Broadband impacts people and communities and it can fundamentally improve the lives of individuals, families and businesses. The most critical reasons for broadband access include the benefits it can bring to:

- Economic and Business Development
- Education
- Healthcare
- Public Safety
- Government Services
- Access to Information and Entertainment

At-a-Glance

- In March 2013, with 12.5 million new lines recently added, global fixed broadband lines stood at 655 million.*
- But, 18.8 million Americans lacked access to broadband download speed of at least 3 Mbps. **

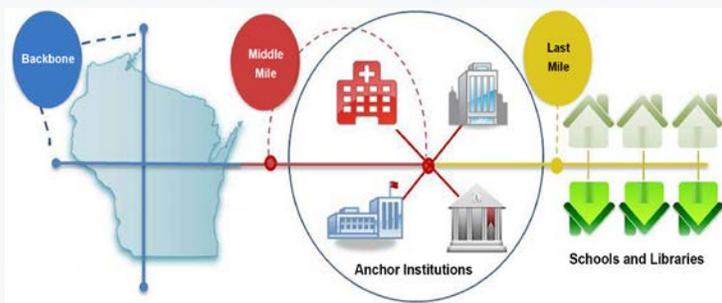
Wisconsin has long been a leader in distance education, with full-motion video networks available in much of the state as far back as the 1970s. These networks were used for distance education by our K-12 schools and two-year technical colleges. By the early 1990s there was more than 8,000 miles of fiber in the state, and 60% of the state's 426 K-12 school districts were members of regional video networks.

*Gartner 2013-Point Topic World Broadband Statistics **Broadbandmap.gov

"By 2017, schools will need 1 Mbps download speeds for every student. Today, there are only a handful of schools across Wisconsin that meet this goal. The enhanced standard is being driven by transformation of teaching and learning that places a device in every student's hands, just as we do for post-secondary students today." – Kurt J. Kiefer, Assistant State Superintendent, Department of Public Instruction

WHAT IS THE BADGERNET CONVERGED NETWORK (BCN)?

The BadgerNet Converged Network (BCN) is Wisconsin's statewide network serving all 72 counties by providing wide area network, internet transport and video applications to state government and educational entities in Wisconsin. The BCN also provides network services to municipalities and other government entities such as Tribal nations, technical colleges, and public and private K-12 schools in various locations in the state.



WHAT ARE THE CURRENT INITIATIVES FOR ENTERPRISE BROADBAND?

Improving Core Infrastructure Services

Partnering with private industry vendors to establish statewide voice, data, and video network with greater bandwidth.

Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System

Preparing the network infrastructures for planned traffic growth due to ERP system implementation.

Unified Communications Pilot

Gaining experience with current technologies to support call and multimedia/cross-media message-management functions that enable mobility and productivity for State staff.

Library Bandwidth Increases

Working with the Regional Library Systems across Wisconsin to increase bandwidth and create greater opportunities for connectivity in their community libraries.

School District Bandwidth Increases

Upgrading bandwidth in schools statewide to meet the Department of Public Instruction's goals for bandwidth capacities per student.

State Agency Bandwidth Increases

Increasing bandwidth available for agencies to support, reform, and modernize the State government's current information technology (IT) systems.