

# WHAT IS BROADBAND?

In its simplest form, the term broadband refers to high-speed internet access that is always on and faster than dial-up. However, as demand for faster and faster internet speeds has increased, so too has the speed definition of broadband. Currently, the Federal Communications Commission defines broadband as an internet connection with a download speed of 25 Megabits per second and an upload speed of 3 Megabits per second. Fixed, terrestrial broadband is high-speed data transmission to homes and businesses that is designed for permanent, stationary use and includes fiber, cable, DSL, and fixed wireless technologies.

## Mobile Broadband

High-speed internet designed for use on-the-go with seamless connectivity from one location to another.

## Fixed Wireless

Broadband service provided between towers and customers using radio waves. Primarily found in rural areas.

## Satellite

Broadband service provided by satellites orbiting the earth. Satellite service can be impacted by line-of-sight and latency.

## Cable

Internet provided by a cable television company over a mixed coaxial and fiber-optic network.

## DSL

Digital-subscriber line (DSL) is broadband delivered over a mixed network of fiber and traditional copper phone lines.

## Fiber

Fiber-optic service uses transparent glass fibers to carry data across distances. Some customers can receive fiber connections directly to their home, but fiber is also used to transport data from communities to the broader internet.

