

According to our just-completed survey, 66.7% of Madison County's home Internet users said that the existing options do not meet their needs. Of that group, 86.9% said their connection was too slow and another 59.8% said that their connection was unreliable.

Of those who do not currently have Internet at home, 27.4% cited cost as the primary barrier, while 68.6% said that service isn't available where they live.

It's frustrating to run a speed test and discover that you're only getting half the [Wi-Fi](http://broadband.madcova.org/glossary/wi-fi/) speeds advertised for your [broadband](http://broadband.madcova.org/glossary/broadband/) plan. Luckily, optimizing your Wi-Fi network for faster speeds isn't as difficult as you might expect. In most cases, you can boost your speeds significantly for little or no extra money. In this post we'll break down the basics of how your Wi-Fi network operates and walk through some steps you can take to boost your Internet speeds.. <http://broadbandnow.com/report/optimize-network-faster-speeds/> (<http://broadbandnow.com/report/optimize-network-faster-speeds/>)

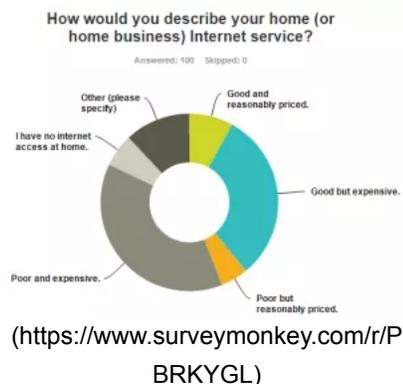
As of 2015, the FCC defines broadband as 25 Mbit/s down, 3 Mbit/s up for wired connections, and 10 Mbit/s down, 768 Mbytes/s down for wireless (<http://broadband.madcova.org/glossary/wireless/>) connections. For more information, please visit the FCC Broadband Speed page at <https://www.fcc.gov/general/broadband-speed> (<https://www.fcc.gov/general/broadband-speed>)

For perspective, run this speedtest (<https://sourceforge.net/speedtest/>), then refer to this link to compare your tested speed vs. recommended minimums for various services.. What speeds do I need for Skype, Netflix, video games, etc.? (<https://support.speedtest.net/hc/en-us/articles/203845210-What-speeds-do-I-need-for-Skype-Netflix-video-games-etc->)

Why expand Internet access in Madison County?

As of 2016, approximately 60% (<https://broadband.cgit.vt.edu/IntegratedToolbox/>) of students, seniors, job seekers, families, and home businesses in Madison County lack access to broadband Internet. Our Board of Supervisors and a dedicated group of local citizens are coming together to address this issue on behalf of those who live, work and play here.

When given access to affordable broadband, rural businesses restricted to local markets, such as "mom and pop" shops or home-based businesses, can expand their market reach across the nation and even the world.



How's your Internet service in Madison?

Broadband brings the opportunity for direct access to education and health care for rural residents who are otherwise forced to travel long distances for college courses and medical treatment.

Rural libraries newly enhanced by high speed Internet often experience a resurgence of community interest and participation. High speed Internet provides rural residents access to global information and cultural resources. Affordable broadband enables historically urban businesses like graphic design, website design, and other creative industries to experience new life in rural settings while competing on the same level as city-based companies. Farmers gain real-time access to vital information such as crop prices or weather forecasts, and marketing opportunities through high-speed networks.



Subscribe to our mailing list

* indicates required

Email Address *

Zip Code *

Subscribe

Share this:

-  Email (<http://broadband.madcova.org/?share=email&nb=1>)
-  Print (<http://broadband.madcova.org/#print>)
-  LinkedIn (<http://broadband.madcova.org/?share=linkedin&nb=1>)
-  Facebook 40 (<http://broadband.madcova.org/?share=facebook&nb=1>)
- [Instapaper \(<http://broadband.madcova.org/?share=instapaper&nb=1>\)](http://broadband.madcova.org/?share=instapaper&nb=1)
-  WhatsApp (<whatsapp://send?text=Home%20http%3A%2F%2Fbroadband.madcova.org%2F>)
-  Telegram (<http://broadband.madcova.org/?share=telegram&nb=1>)
-  More