



Connect Minnesota

Broadband Mapping Initiative

Minnesota House of Representatives
Commerce and Labor Committee
Telecom Regulation & Infrastructure Division
May 5, 2010

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Our Mission

Connect Minnesota is a subsidiary non-profit of Connected Nation, a national 501(c)(3) organization with primary offices in Washington, DC and Bowling Green, KY.

Connected Nation's mission is to generate and support economic development across the United States by:

- 1) Enabling the expansion of broadband availability, and**
- 2) Working to increasing broadband adoption rates**

Connect Minnesota has partnered with the Minnesota Department of Commerce to update Minnesota's broadband inventory maps and collect additional broadband data as required by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Connect Minnesota is the recipient of a \$1.7 million grant under NTIA's State Broadband Data & Development Grant Program (SBDD).

- 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 in September 2008.
- Between October 2008 and June 2009, Connect Minnesota developed the state's first broadband inventory map and analysis of unserved areas.
- The final version of the map produced under Connect Minnesota's original mapping project was released on June 30, 2009.

Minnesota's Broadband Service Inventory as of June 30, 2009

Symbology

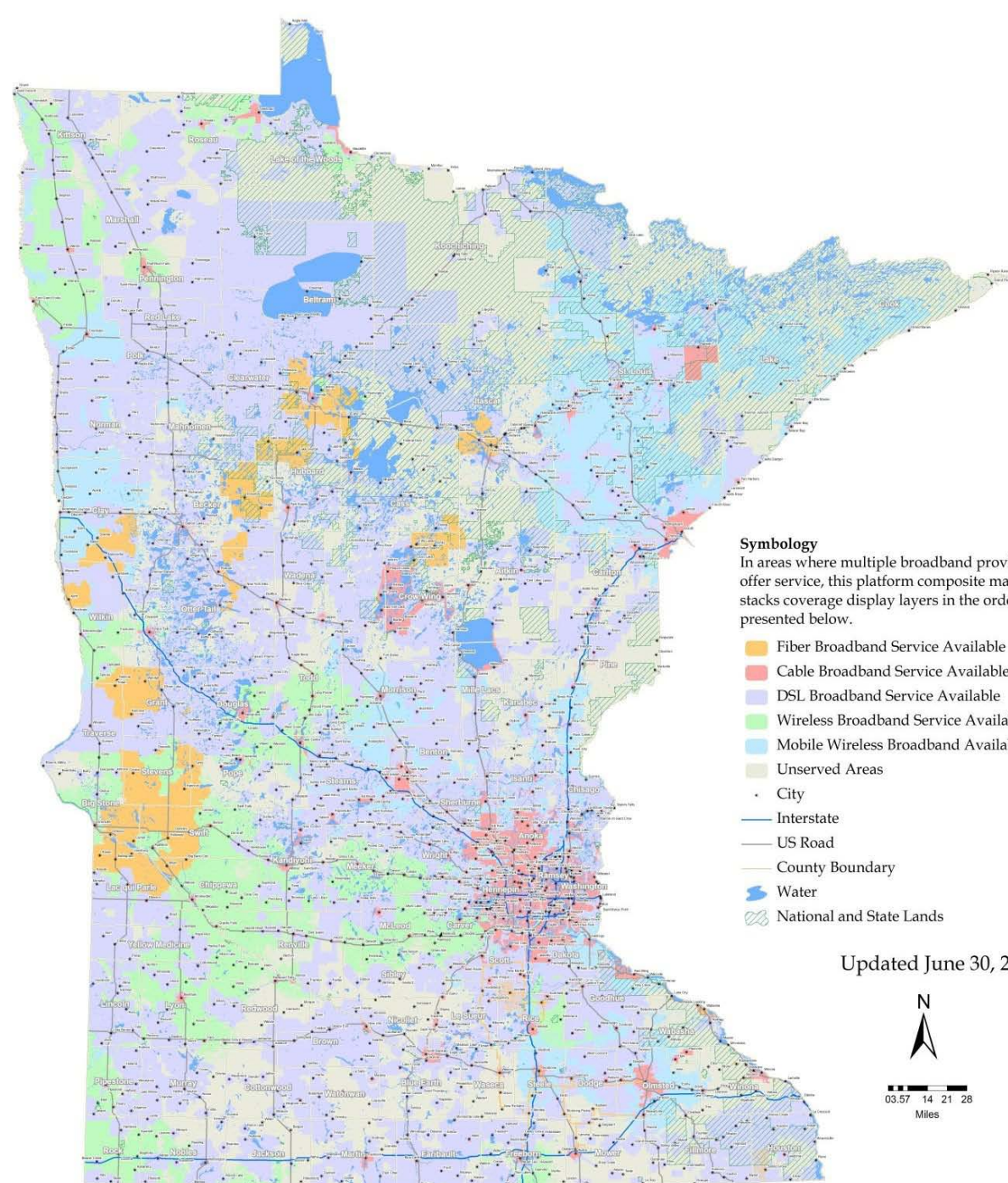
In areas where multiple broadband providers offer service, this platform composite map stacks coverage display layers in the order presented below.

- 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 June 30, 2009



03.57 14 21 28
Miles

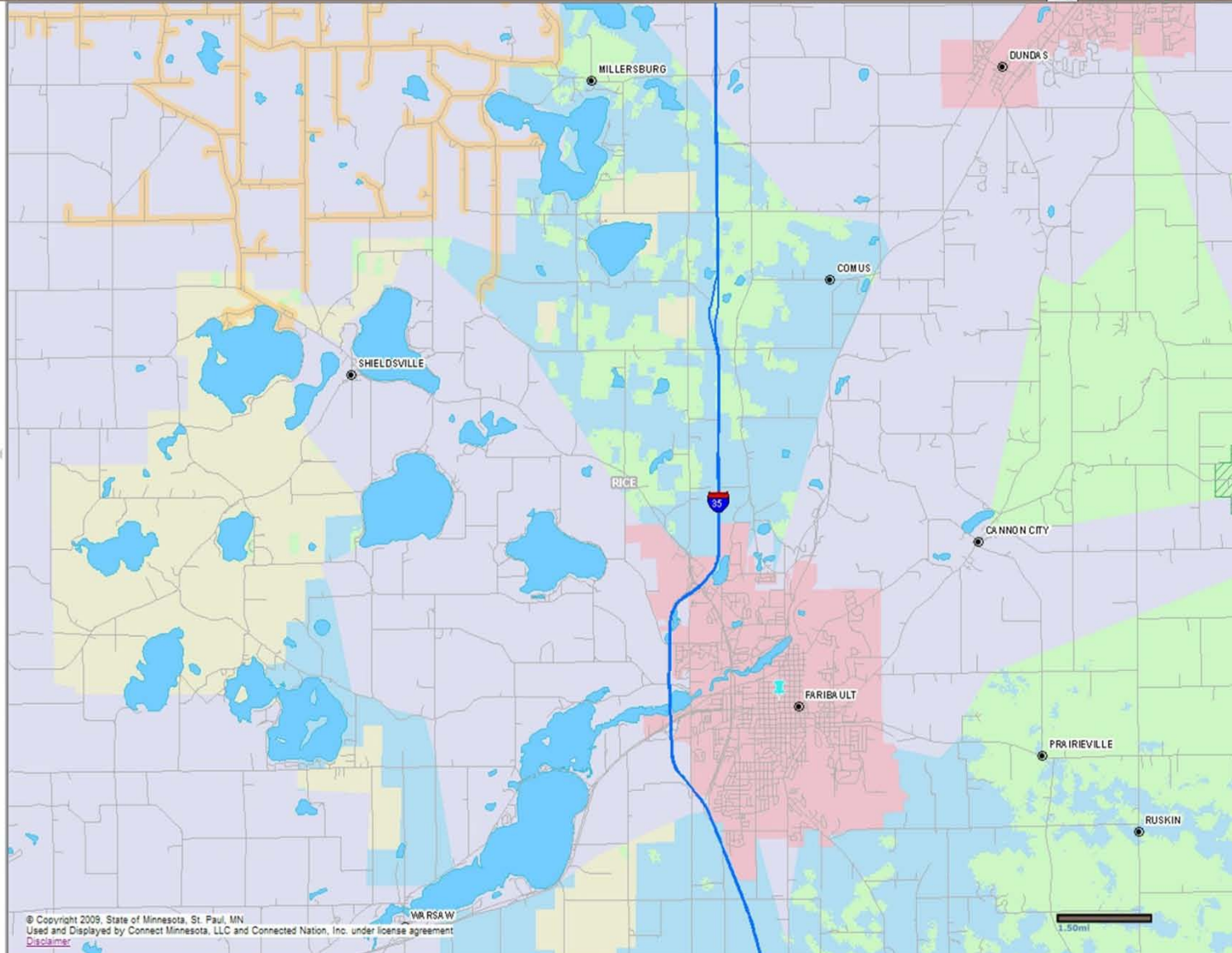


Results

- 400 7th Street NW, Faribault, MN, 55021 (3)
- 400 7TH ST NW, MN, 55021

Legend

- MNBroadband
 - County Seat
 - City
 - Municipal Boundary
 - Interstate
 - US Road
 - Local Road
 - County Boundary
 - National and State Lands
 - Lake
 - Minnesota Broadband
 - Fiber Broadband Available
 - Cable Broadband Available
 - DSL Broadband Available
 - Wireless Broadband Available
 - Mobile Wireless Broadband Available*
 - Average Residential Download Speed
 - 1st Generation Data (200 kbps to 768 kbps)
 - Basic Broadband Tier 1 (768 kbps to 1 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)
 - Average Residential Upload Speed
 - 1st Generation Data (200 kbps to 768 kbps)
 - Basic Broadband Tier 1 (768 kbps to 1 Mbps)
 - Broadband Tier 2 (1.5 Mbps to 3 Mbps)
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 - Broadband Tier 7 (Greater than 100 Mbps)
 - Aerial Imagery - MNDNR Data Deli
 - Farm Services Administration (FSA) C
 - State of Minnesota





Project Objectives

- To further develop strong working relationships with all of Minnesota's broadband providers and support an environment of public/private collaboration on broadband issues among all stakeholders
- To update and improve Minnesota's detailed maps of broadband coverage and launch a new robust, more user-friendly interactive map
- To utilize the resulting maps to accurately pinpoint any remaining gaps in broadband availability
- To assess the level of connectivity currently provided to Minnesota's "community anchor institutions" (i.e., schools, libraries, hospitals, etc.)
- To assess broadband use among Minnesota's businesses and residents, and identify barriers to broadband adoption, and
- To support the work of the Minnesota Broadband Task Force's successor as needed

- On April 30, Connect Minnesota submitted an initial dataset to NTIA, representing broadband data from 100 unique broadband providers across Minnesota—representing 83% of the provider community (100 out of 120 unique providers identified).
- Of those 100 providers, 94 are included on the updated broadband map. 6 providers are exclusively middle-mile (backhaul) providers and cannot be mapped per NTIA guidelines. However, the data was submitted to NTIA.
- Of the 20 providers that are not represented in the initial submission:
 - 2 providers have either refused to participate in the voluntary program or have remained unresponsive to the numerous contact attempts by Connect Minnesota.
 - 18 providers are currently in some form of progress toward data submission but were not able to either submit or verify coverage areas at the time of the April 30 submission to NTIA.



Key Findings & Next Steps

- **Key Findings:**
 - **95.55% of Minnesota households have access to broadband service of at least 768 kbps downstream**
 - **4.45% of Minnesota households are unserved, representing approximately 93,000 unserved households**
- **During the week of May 17, the maps generated by this initial data-collection process will be released to the public in an interactive format called “BroadbandStat” via www.connectmn.org**
- **The maps will be continuously updated for a period of at least two years (up to five years, pending funding availability).**
- **Official dataset submissions to NTIA will occur every six months; the next submission will occur in September**
- **Connected Nation’s Engineering & Technical Services Division and Research Division will undertake an ongoing process of validating the coverage information reflected on the maps.**
- **The public is also invited to provide feedback via www.connectmn.org**

Minnesota's Broadband Service Inventory as of June 30, 2009

Symbology

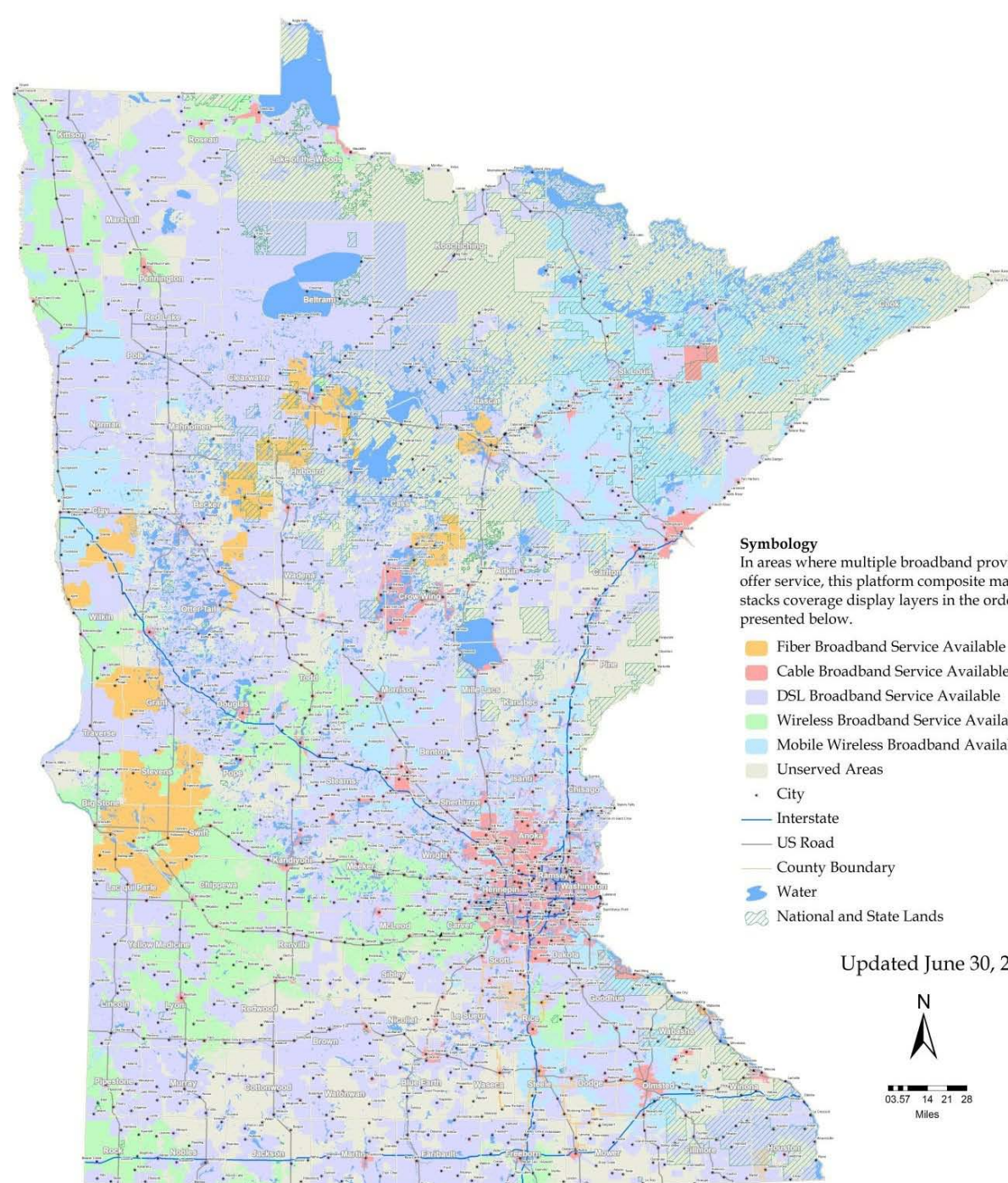
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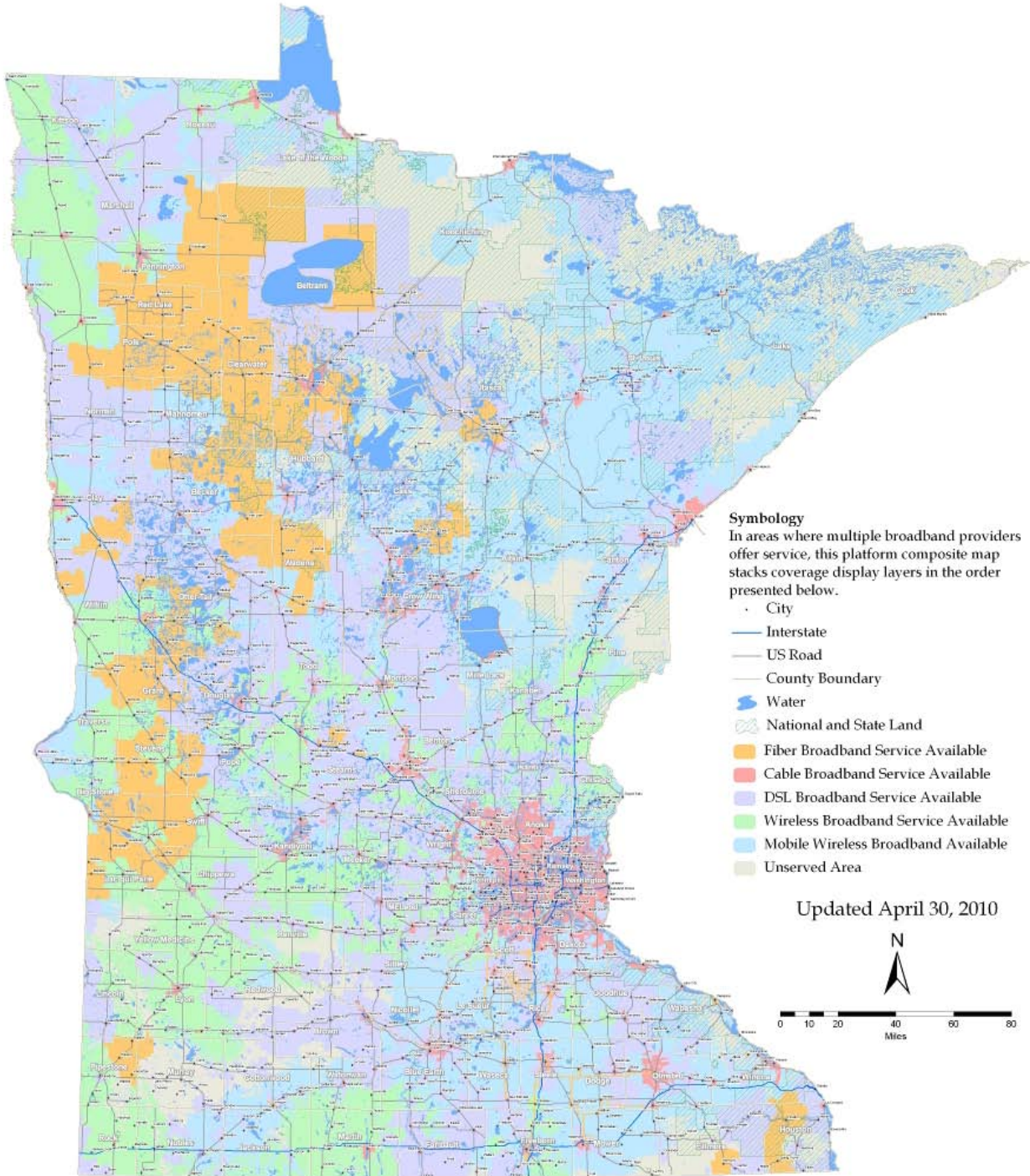
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-  Unserved Areas
-  City
-  Interstate
-  US Road
-  County Boundary
-  Water
-  National and State Lands

Updated June 30, 2009



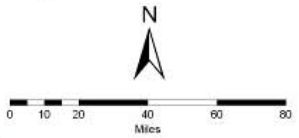
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- Symbology**
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 - Wireless Broadband Service Available
 - Mobile Wireless Broadband Available
 - Unserviced Area

Updated April 30, 2010



Minnesota's Broadband Service Inventory as of April 30, 2010

- The ***BroadbandStat*** web application represents the nexus between mapping current broadband availability and planning for the future.
- ***BroadbandStat*** is a powerful, yet user-friendly and customizable tool that will allow state leaders and the public to:
 - Search for and identify broadband service at a specific address, including available speeds and service providers
 - Understand & track broadband deployment over time
 - Analyze and prioritize unserved and underserved areas using population and household density information
 - Track ARRA-funded broadband projects
 - Build and evaluate scenarios to help score and prioritize future broadband infrastructure proposals
 - Track broadband adoption rates and barriers to broadband adoption across Minnesota.



BroadbandStat Demonstration

- Research on broadband adoption, broadband use, and barriers to broadband adoption will help complete the picture of Minnesota's broadband landscape.
- To plan for the future, it's important to understand where the “digital divide” exists and what is causing it.
- Connect Minnesota will launch a statewide research project to understand broadband adoption issues, including:
 - Adoption rates
 - Demographic factors that impact adoption
 - Monthly subscription costs
 - Computer ownership rates
 - Awareness/computer literacy issues and trends
- The resulting data will be used to create additional analytical layers within the BroadbandStat application.
- A sample research report for the State of Ohio can be found here:
http://connectoh.org/documents/Res_OH_06192009_FINAL.pdf



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